

Report No. 252.

5th January, 1956.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

COMMITTEE OF WHOLE BOARD.

A Special Meeting of the Board, sitting as a Committee of the Whole Board, was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 5th day of January, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman) in the Chair. The following members were also present :—

City of Dublin Representatives :—Aldermen Thomas Byrne, T.D., P.C., Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D., Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Kevin Boland, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Bernard Conway, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Dr. Christopher A. Macken, Eugene Timmons, Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, P. T. O'Reilly, Thomas O'Reilly, Ronald Roulston.

County Dublin Representatives.—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews, P.C. and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives.—Councillors C. M. Byrne and William Lawless.

MANAGER'S REPORT.

ESTIMATE AND DEMAND FOR 1956/57.

1. In pursuance of Section 9 of the City and County Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, I have prepared an estimate in the prescribed form showing the amounts which,

method of remunerating the nursing staff (i) the expenditure on Food will show an apparent reduction because payments in lieu of rations which were charged formerly to the heading of 'Food, Drink and Tobacco' now appear under the heading of 'Salaries and Wages' (ii) the expenditure on 'Clothing and Bedding' will show a reduction because the scale of uniform issues to nurses has been reduced.

It is estimated that the gross expenditure on Salaries and Wages during the current year will be increased by £91,650 because of these factors. This increase will be offset, however, by the following adjustments:—

Estimated amount of payments in lieu of rations no longer charged to 'Food Drink and Tobacco'	£21,000
Estimated reduced expenditure on uniform clothing	5,250
Estimated increased receipts due to deductions for goods and services	65,500
	<hr/> £91,750

Although the new method of accounting for salaries will not involve any increase in real cost, it is necessary to obtain the Board's authorisation to the estimated increase of £91,650 in the amount to be charged to Salaries and Wages for the current year.

It is estimated also that the additional staff required for the two new units at Portrane will involve increased expenditure of £2,800 for the remainder of the year.

Heating, Lighting and Water Supply.—The amount provided under this heading in the original estimate was £56,000 and it is anticipated that the actual expenditure will be in the region of £66,000. The increase is due to a sharp rise in the cost of fuel and to the fact that the quantity provided for originally was somewhat on the low side.

Superannuations.—It appears probable that the sum of £34,000 provided under this head may be exceeded by £5,000 as the payments arising on retirement, marriage and death have been greater than anticipated.

Structural Alterations, Repairs, etc.—The original provision under this head (£24,112) is likely to be exceeded by about £2,000. The Board has already authorised additional expenditure of £3,000 to meet increased wages for building workers and of £800 for additional painting, which is sufficient to cover the excess.

To provide for the foregoing revised requirements during the current financial year, I would ask the Board to authorise the expenditure of £109,450 in excess of the amount provided in the Estimate and Demand for 1955/56, viz. :—

<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Salaries and Wages—amount required by new method of accounting	£91,650
Salaries and Wages—for additional nursing staff	£2,800
Heating, lighting and water supply	£10,000
Superannuations	£5,000
TOTAL	£109,450

4. *Estimate for the Coming Financial Year 1956/57.*—Table 3 of Report No. 251 shows an increase of £110,473 in the estimated expenditure for 1956/57 as compared with the original estimate for 1955/6. Table 4.—Receipts, however, shows an increase of £69,000 in the estimated 'Deductions from Salaries and Wages' and an increase of £1,000 in 'Superannuation Contributions'. The latter increases are due to the new method of paying nurses' salaries and for the purpose of comparison with last year's figures, it may be said that the real increase in estimated expenditure is £40,473 (£110,473—£70,000). The increase arises under the following heads of expenditure:—

Heating, Lighting and Water Supply.—The increased estimate of £72,000 is based on current fuel prices with provision for the additional heating, etc., of new buildings and the supply of electricity to Portrane from the E.S.B.

Salaries and Wages.—When allowance is made for the increased 'Deductions from Salaries and Wages' referred to in the preceding paragraph, the net increase under this heading is £34,000 (£104,000—£70,000) which is due to (i) the provision of £11,000 for the cost of increased nursing staff in a full year (ii) the inclusion in salaries of cash in lieu of rations which was formerly charged to 'Food, Drink and Tobacco'.

Superannuations.—The sum of £36,500 represents an increase of £2,500 on the figure for the current year. The increases in salaries and wages generally will tend to increase the cost of superannuations progressively over the next few years.

Structural Alterations, Repairs and Maintenance.—The total of £27,295 is based on the estimated cost of special

works to be carried out in 1956/57, as shown in detail in Table 7, plus a sum of £5,000 for materials required for general maintenance. The list of special works has been examined by the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees and recommended for adoption.

Miscellaneous Expenses.—Miscellaneous Expenses are estimated to increase by £1,640. Details of the amounts under each sub-head appear in Table 8.

Substantial reductions in estimated expenditure appear under the following heads:—

Food, Drink and Tobacco.—In arriving at the estimated figure of £136,000 account has been taken of the following factors which tend to increase the cost of food purchased (i) increased prices for certain commodities (ii) an anticipated increase of 35 in the average daily number of patients maintained, (iii) the purchase by contract of bullock beef for Portrane formerly supplied through the farm. On the other hand (as explained already) ration money paid to members of the nursing staff is no longer charged to this heading, consequently the figure included for 1956/57 is £5,000 less than for the current year.

Farm Expenses.—The estimated decrease under this head is due to (i) a reduction in the number of milch cows required as replacements for the dairy herd, (ii) the discontinuance of the practice of supplying bullock beef for Portrane from the Farm.

Clothing and Bedding.—The Reduction in the annual issue of uniform to nursing staff (already mentioned) results in an estimated saving of £5,000 under this head.

Table 4 shows that Receipts for 1956/57 are expected to increase by £71,300, but this is attributable almost entirely to increased 'Deductions from Salaries and Wages' and increased 'Superannuation Contributions' arising from the application of the new nursing scales. The estimated increase in receipts from other sources is £1,300 only.

5. *Apportionment of Demand.*—The method of apportioning the expenses between the contributing authorities is explained in Table 6 of Report No. 251 and the actual apportionment in Table 5. On the basis of the estimated number of chargeable patients from each area, the total nett requirement has been apportioned as set out in Column 4 of Table B of the proposed official Estimate and Demand. After adding the estimated debit balances at 31st March, 1956, and deducting estimated receipts in respect of paying patients from each area, the net sums to be demanded, if the estimates as submitted are approved, will be as follows:—

	1956/57	Last Year
Corporation of Dublin		
(an increase of £79,456)	£571,124	£491,668
County of Dublin		
(an increase of £8,427)	£94,675	£86,248
County of Wicklow		
(an increase of £8,227)	£67,718	£59,491

These proposed demands represent a total increase of £96,110 on the demands made twelve months ago for the current year's expenses. In the Manager's report of 6th January, 1955, on the Estimate and Demand for 1955/56, it was explained that the reduction of £3,271 in the total demand was due to the fact that favourable results anticipated from 1954/55 enabled him to expect a credit balance of

£36,405 at 31st March, 1955, which served to reduce the demands on the contributing bodies. He pointed out that the Board's expenditure continued to grow from year to year. This is the unavoidable result of an increase in the number of patients maintained and the additional staff required for their care together with rising costs of goods and wages. The trend is shown clearly by the following figures of net requirements (i.e., total revenue expenditure less miscellaneous receipts) for recent years:—

1952/53	....	£609,520	....	Actual
1953/54	....	£651,320	....	Actual
1954/55	....	£684,506	....	Actual
1955/56	....	£718,112	....	Original Estimate
1956/57	—	£758,585	....	Present Estimate

The total increase of £96,110 in the proposed demand for 1956/57 (as compared with that for 1955/56) arises from:—

An increase in the net expenses estimated to amount to £40,473

The fact that there is estimated to be a debit balance of £20,532 at 31st March, 1956, whereas at the corresponding date in the previous year there was an estimated credit balance of £36,405 £56,937

£97,410

Less an estimated increase in receipts from Paying Patients, £1,300

£96,110

I should like to emphasize that the foregoing estimates are based generally on the level of prices and rates of remun-

eration at present in operation. I am, however, at present negotiating with the Trade Unions in connection with claims submitted for increased salaries for the nursing staffs. Until these negotiations are concluded I will be unable to indicate what provision should be made for such increases but I am satisfied that a substantial sum will have to be provided in addition to the amounts which appear in Report No. 251.

6. All the figures in this report have been certified to me by the Chief Clerk and Accountant. The estimate has been approved by the City and County Manager and I recommend it for adoption by the Board.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin, Assistant City and County Manager.

5th January, 1956.

The draft Estimate and the Manager's Report thereon were discussed in detail. Arising out of Paragraph 3 of the Manager's Report, Councillor Kevin Boland proposed and Mr. T. O'Reilly seconded:—

"We recommend that the Manager be authorised to expend a sum of £109,450 in excess of the amount provided in the Official Estimate and Demand for 1955-56 for the purposes set out in Paragraph 3 of the Manager's Report of this date."

Passed Unanimously.

The following resolution, proposed by Mr. Anthony Lalor, seconded by Mr. P. T. O'Reilly, was adopted unanimously:—

"That, having carefully examined the estimates of probable balances at 31st March, 1956 and the various estimates of Receipts and Expenditure as set out in detail in Report No. 251 and having considered the Manager's Report thereon, we recommend to the Board that the Manager's Estimate of Expenses for the ensuing financial year 1956-57 be approved and adopted and that the Chairman and the Chief Clerk be authorised to sign the formal demands on the contributing Councils for the following amounts :—

Corporation of Dublin	...	£571,124
County Council of Dublin	...	£94,675
County Council of Wicklow	...	£67,718

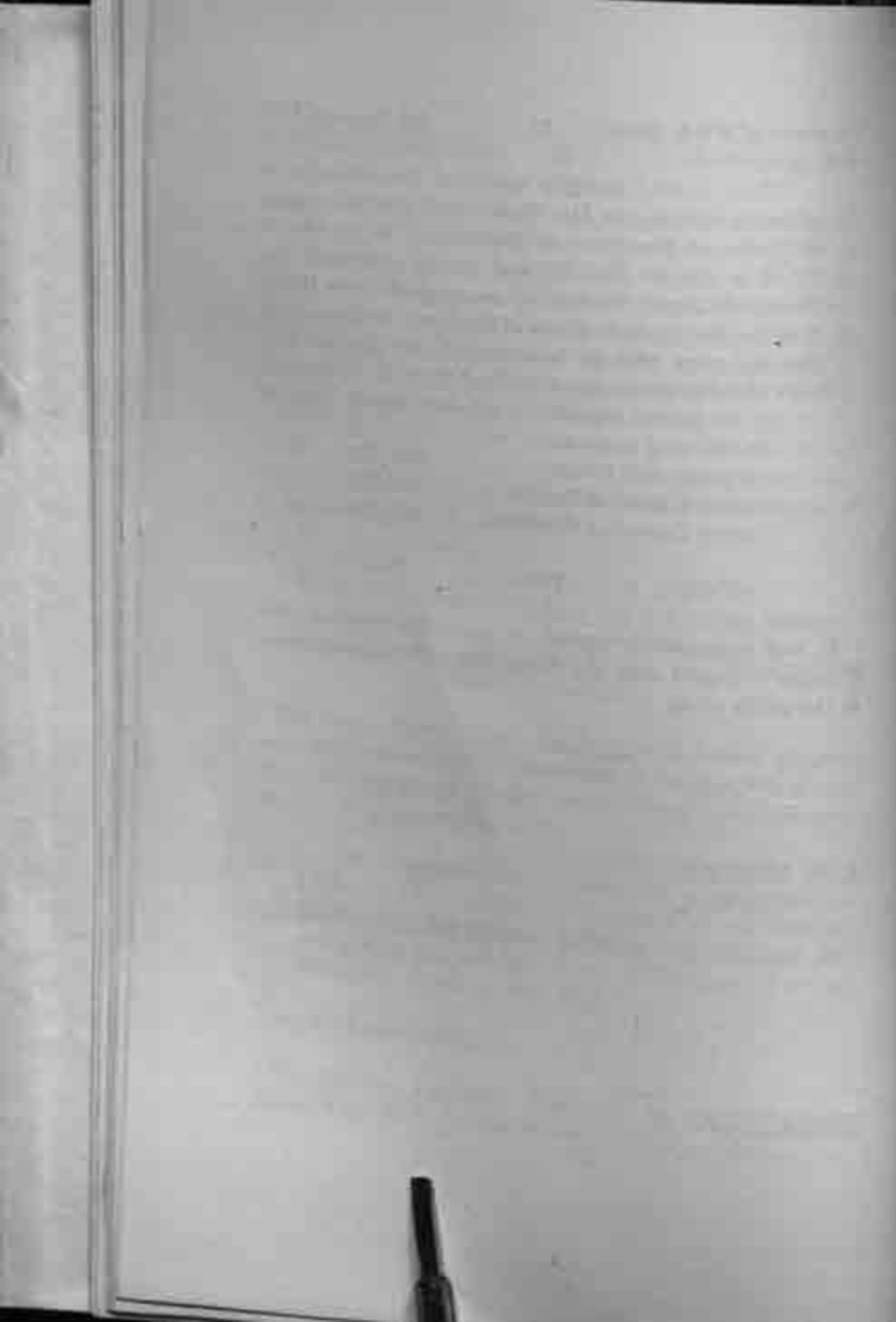
TOTAL ... £733,517 "

It was unanimously agreed to forward a copy of the Manager's Report and the Committee's recommendations to the public press.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.



Report No. 253.

12th January, 1956.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

ESTIMATES MEETING.

The statutory Estimates Meeting of the Board and the ordinary monthly meeting was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 12th day of January, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman), in the Chair. The following members were also present :—

City of Dublin Representatives :—Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Roland Burgess, P.C., Mrs. Catherine Byrne, James Carroll, P.C., Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Denis Larkin, T.D. (Lord Mayor), Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., James J. O'Keeffe, Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, P.C., William Chase, John Jones, Anthony Lalor, M. McStay, T. O'Reilly, Ronald Roulston and John Smithers.

County Dublin Representatives :—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives :—Councillors W. Lawless and P. McCarthy.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Alderman Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D. and Mr. P. T. O'Reilly.

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 250, 15th December, 1955), were confirmed and signed,

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 31st December, 1955, was submitted as follows:—

	M.	F.	Total
On Hospital Register at 30th Nov. 1955	1768	2084	3852
Admitted during month	51	54	105
	1819	2138	3957
Discharged during month	49	71	120
Died do.	3	13	16
Escaped do.	1	—	1
	53	84	137
Remaining on Hospital Register	1766	2054	3820
Absent on trial and escape	26	40	66
Remaining in residence	1740	2014	3754

DISTRIBUTION.

In Grangegorman	887	1221	2108
In Portrane	853	793	1646
Total number resident as above	1740	2014	3754

CHARGEABILITY.

City of Dublin	2858
County Dublin	497
County Wicklow	341
Criminal Lunatics	40
Non-district patients	18
TOTAL	3754

ESTIMATE AND DEMAND FOR 1956-57.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT.

1. In the penultimate paragraph of my report of 5th instant about the proposed Estimate and Demand for 1956/57, I mentioned that I was negotiating with the Trade Unions a claim submitted for increased remuneration for nursing staffs. I met the Trade Union representatives on 6th instant and offered, subject to the consent of the Board and the approval of the Minister for Health, an increase of ten per cent in basic salaries from 1st October, 1955, accompanied by an increase of 6d. a day (3s. 6d. a week) in the deduction made for rations provided. It is proposed that this increase will apply to attendants and nurses up to Charge rank.

Expressed as weekly figures, the general effect of the proposed increase is as follows:—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Mental Attendants	11/2 to 11/9	10/2 to 10/8	Plus 1/- (Approx.) For Deputy Charge Nurse, 1/9 for Charge Nurse
Mental Nurses	.... 13/3 to 16/-	11/9 to 14/5
General Trained Nurses	—	12/8 to 15/2	
Infirmiry Nurses....	—	14/3 to 16/9	

Less an increased deduction of 3s. 6d. a week where full rations are provided.

I request the Board's consent to my making application to the Minister for Health for his sanction to this revision in nurses' remuneration.

2. Claims for increases for other sections of the staff have not yet been dealt with. To provide for such and the increase described in the preceding paragraph, it is estimated that a sum of £35,000 would be required in a full year, against which there would be increased receipts arising from the higher charge for rations supplied to nurses, estimated to amount to £5,000.

I would, therefore, ask the Board to authorise the expenditure of a sum of £17,500 in excess of the amount provided in the estimate and demand for the current financial year 1955/56. This will have the effect of increasing the estimated debit balance which appears in Column 3 of Table B of the draft Calculation of sum to be Demanded for 1956/57, by £15,000 (i.e., £17,500 less £2,500 increased charge for rations).

3. It will be necessary also to increase the net requirement which appears in Table A of the draft Estimate of Expenses by £30,000 (£35,000 less £5,000), i.e., from £758,585 to £788,585.

The effect of these adjustments will be to increase the net sum to be demanded from the contributing authorities by £45,000, i.e., from £733,517 to £778,517, viz. :—

	£	£
Provision for increased remuneration from 1/10/1955 to 31/3/1956	— 17,500	
less increased receipts for rations	... 2,500	15,000
Provision for increased remuneration in 1956/57	... 35,000	
less increased receipts for rations	— 5,000	30,000
Total addition to Demand	...	£45,000

TABLE 5 AS REVISED.

Apportionment of Estimate and Proposed Demand for 1956/57 and Comparison with last Demand.

	City of Dublin	County Dublin	County Wicklow	Totals
	£	£	£	£
ESTIMATED DEBIT BALANCES AT 31st MARCH, 1956	29,722	2,760	3,050	35,532
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE 1956-57 ...	696,119	120,876	82,590	899,585
	725,841	123,636	85,640	935,117
<i>Less</i> —Estimated Receipts for Service Patients, Criminal Lunatics, Non- District patients and other Mis- cellaneous Receipts	85,894	14,915	10,191	111,000
NET DEBITS	639,947	108,721	75,449	824,117
ESTIMATED CREDIT BALANCE AT 31st MARCH, 1956	—	—	—	—
Estimated Receipts for Patients credited direct to Contributing Councils for 1956-57	34,000	8,000	3,600	45,600
NET CREDITS	34,000	8,000	3,600	45,600
DIFFERENCE, NET DEMAND 1956-57	605,947	100,721	71,849	778,517
CORRESPONDING DEMAND 1955-56	491,668	86,248	59,491	637,407
INCREASE	114,279	14,473	12,358	141,110

I am attaching to this report a revision of Table No. 5 which appeared on Page 6 of Report No. 251. The revised table shows the separate amounts to be demanded from the contributing authorities if the foregoing proposals are adopted.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City and County Manager.

12th January, 1956.

Arising out of Paragraph 1 of the above Report, it was proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly and seconded by Mr. John Smithers :—

"That, pursuant to the provisions of Section 6 of the City and County Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, the Board consents to application being made to the Minister for Health for sanction to the revision of the remuneration of the nursing staff as proposed by the Manager."

Passed unanimously.

Arising out of Paragraph 2 it was proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly and seconded by Mr. John Smithers :—

"That, pursuant to the provisions of Section 11 of the City and County Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, the Manager be authorised to expend a sum of £17,500 in excess of the amount provided in the official Estimate and Demand for 1955-56 on increased remuneration for the staff."

Passed Unanimously.

Arising out of Paragraph 3 it was proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly and seconded by Mr. John Smithers :—

"That the Manager's Estimate of Expenses for the year ending 31st March, 1957, showing a net requirement of £758,585, as set out in Table A of the official Estimate now submitted, be amended by increasing the net requirement by £30,000 and that a revised estimate showing a net requirement of £788,585 be adopted and that the Board determines in accordance with the revised estimate of expenses the following to be the amounts to be demanded from the contributing councils, viz. :—

Corporation of Dublin	....	£605,947
County Council of Dublin	....	£100,721
County Council of Wicklow	....	£71,849
		<hr/>
		£778,517

as set forth in Column 9 of Table B and authorizes the Chairman and the Chief Clerk to sign the formal demands on the contributing Councils for these amounts."

Passed unanimously.

On consideration of Report No. 252 of the Committee of the Whole Board, 5th January, 1956, it was proposed by Mr. A. Lalor and seconded by Councillor J. Carroll :—

"That the recommendations in Report No. 252 of the Committee of the Whole Board, 5th January, 1956, be adopted subject to the amendment, in accordance with the preceding resolutions, of that part which relates to the adoption of the Manager's Estimate of Expenses and the Demand for 1956-57."

Passed unanimously.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN.

11th January, 1956.

Accompanied by Dr. Moloney and Dr. Geraghty we made a general inspection of the Male Section Kitchens, distribution of food, dining hall, and saw the patients at lunch. The food was good, well served and well cooked.

We visited the Male Therapy Department; the patients had gone to lunch but everything appeared in good order.

In the new divisions we found everything in order.

W. J. COLMAN.

J. SMITHERS.

A. LALOR.

J. ANDREWS.

Order : Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

4th January, 1956.

1. An inspection was carried out at Portrane Mental Hospital on Wednesday, 4th January, 1956.

Dr. Aird went with us through the various divisions.

Our first call was to the kitchen where we saw the food being served up for dinner. There was a varied menu, consisting of roast mutton, roast beef, stew, cabbage and potatoes, with rice pudding.

On entering the dining hall we saw the male patients at lunch. Some of the patients had complaints regarding

potatoes which were not quite cooked. The fault here seems to be that the potatoes are not graded and, therefore, the larger potatoes were not so well cooked as the smaller ones.

We were also told that some patients got no spoon to eat with when eggs or pudding, etc., was served. On asking the attendants we were told this was not the case, so we concluded that by accident a patient may at some time be left without a spoon.

Our attention was also drawn to the bread and butter. Perhaps the machine does not function properly at times as the butter seems to be left out. This is a small matter which could be given attention.

We noticed the waste matter when collected from the tables is swept into a container by a long handled brush. Would it not be easier to use a short-handled brush?

2. In No. 6 Hospital ward the patients were all comfortable and very clean and all seemed contented. Some of the men told us they had enjoyed their Christmas very much.

3. In the Female Hospital (No. 6) we must comment on the gentleness and patience of the nurses who were spoon feeding the patients. The atmosphere was bright and cheery.

4. Good work is being carried out in the Workshops. The cloth weaving was excellent as was the stool making and rug making. In the boot making workshop all the men were very active in the making and repairing of boots.

The women were doing good work in the Laundry.

5. Many of the patients spoke very highly of their Christmas Dinner and of the cake they got for tea.

6. It was pleasant to note how well the Hospital had been decorated for Christmas and the flowers in the corridor were lovely but would have lasted much longer if the plants had been watered.

Our thanks are due to Dr. Aird for his help and also to Dr. Meenan who accompanied us to the Workshops and Laundry.

W. J. COLMAN.
MARY MULVEY.
THOMAS O'REILLY.
CATHERINE BYRNE.

Order: Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to the 16th February, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board:—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).
" Gilbert Hughes.
" Mrs. Kathleen Nix.
Mr. J. Jones.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Concouncillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).
" E. Timmons.
" W. Lawless.
Mr. John Cahill.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

12th January, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on 8th instant 3,770 patients, viz. :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
In Grangegorman	890	1,232	2,122
In Portrane	855	793	1,648
Total	1,745	2,025	3,770

as compared with :—

8th January, 1955	1,745	2,014	3,759
8th January, 1954	1,715	2,011	3,726
8th January, 1953	1,646	1,980	3,626
8th January, 1952	1,590	1,928	3,518

this year's number being 11 more than on the corresponding date last year and 252 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. Since 11th ultimo 42 male and 52 female patients were admitted, total 94. Ninety-two of these were chargeable patients, of whom 53 were temporary, 30 were Voluntary and 9 were Persons of Unsound Mind. Two Private Patients were also admitted.

3. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

4. On the 3rd instant female patient D.D. (9470), aged 50 years, died suddenly in bed at Grangegorman. The cause

of death was certified to be acute cardiac syncope with auricular fibrillation, and the Coroner did not deem an inquest necessary.

5. Male patient J.O'S. (9084), a voluntary patient at Grangegorman, did not return off pass on the 6th ultimo.

Male patient O.M. (7018) escaped on the 11th ultimo when being transferred from No. 6 to No. 5 Division at Grangegorman in company with a number of other patients. He was found about 6 a.m. the following morning in the suburbs and was brought back to the Hospital by Gardai. The Chief R.M.S. has enquired into the circumstances of this escape and assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection therewith.

6. *Accidents to Patients* (Grangegorman).—Male patient P.B. (7747) was struck on the nose by another patient on the 11th ultimo and sustained a fracture of the nasal bone.

On the 17th ultimo male patient C.F. (8407), aged 76 years, fell out of bed in No. 2 Division and sustained an impacted fracture of the right hip.

On the 20th ultimo male patient J.G. (6305), aged 86 years, fell as he was leaving his bed in No. 10 division and sustained and impacted fracture of the left hip.

On the 26th ultimo male patient J.B. (40282) was pushed by another patient in No. 1 division and struck his face against a rail which runs around the wall of the dayroom. He received a fracture of the right zygomatic bone.

On the 21st ultimo female patient M.D. (43061), aged 58 years, accidentally slipped and fell on the dayroom floor, sustaining an impacted fracture of the left femoral neck.

On the 5th ultimo female patient M.S. (9211) impulsively broke glass in No. 11 division, sustaining a deep wound on the right wrist. She received treatment from a Visiting Surgeon.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

7. *Accidents to Patients* (Portrane).—On the 10th ultimo female patient K.W. (246) was pushed by another patient and knocked down in No. 1 dayroom, sustaining a fracture of the neck of the left femur. The Portrane Medical Superintendent assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with this accident which has been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

8. —*Accidents to Staff* (Grangegorman).—Attendant P.G. has been off duty since the 6th instant with an injury to her foot which is stated to have been caused by a fall about six weeks ago.

Nurse M.J.F. was off duty from the 14th to the 18th ultimo with a sprained ankle.

A number of other accidents to members of the nursing staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

9. *Accidents to Staff* (Portrane).—Dr. J.M. was off duty from the 28th ultimo to the 3rd instant as a result of injuries sustained in a motor accident in the City.

Nurse K.O'B. was off duty from the 5th to the 22nd ultimo and again from the 29th ultimo suffering from abrasions and shock, having been struck by a cyclist on the main avenue.

On the 15th ultimo P.G., garden labourer, injured his

side in a fall while on duty and he has been incapacitated since that date.

A number of other accidents to members of the nursing staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

10. The Minister for Health has approved the revised sketch plans for the reconstruction of the second block of temporary buildings at Grangegorman, subject to certain minor amendments, and he has agreed that the Board's Architect may proceed with the preparation of working drawings, subject to incorporation of these amendments and provided that proposals in regard to finishes and construction are submitted at an early stage.

The Architect has been instructed accordingly, and he has been requested to submit an estimate of the inclusive cost. It will be remembered that the Minister promised to consider the Board's application for a grant towards the cost of this work when an estimate of the cost of an approved scheme is available.

11. In the early hours of the morning of the 15th ultimo a fire occurred in the Sports Pavilion on the male grounds at Grangegorman. The Dublin Fire Brigade was called and was assisted by the Institution Brigade, but the whole of the timber part of the building was completely destroyed with the contents. A recently built concrete annexe was undamaged. A sum of £834 has been recovered from the Board's Insurers.

12. The last valuation of the Board's property for fire insurance purposes was made in 1949-50 and I have requested the Board's Architect to carry out a survey of the various buildings with a view to determining the present valuation

for fire purposes. Pending completion of this survey, arrangements have been made with the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance Ltd. to increase the amount of cover on each of the buildings in Grangegorman and Portrane by 20 per cent.

13. The Agricultural Manager reports that considerable damage has been caused recently to the farm buildings at Santry Court by the removal of lead from the roof and valleys. On his suggestion, the Clerk of Works has been instructed to remove the remaining lead gutters, flashings, etc., as far as practicable, and substitute felt or other material. It is probable that the value of the lead salvaged will cover the greater part of the cost of doing this work.

14. On the recommendation of the Head Gardener, I have accepted the tender of Messrs. Rowan & Co., Ltd. for the supply of seeds and sundries required for the gardens in the following amounts :—

Requirements for Grangegorman	....	£168 5s. 6d.
Requirements for Portrane	....	£140 16s. 6d.

being the lowest of five tenders received.

15. To make good a temporary shortage in supplies of milk from Portrane Farm, quotations were invited recently for the supply of pasteurised milk to Grangegorman, as required and ordered during the period ending 31st January, 1956. I have accepted the lowest quotation, viz.: 3s. 0d. a gallon delivered, which was submitted by Mr. R. P. Comerford, Ben Edair Dairy, Mount Brown.

16. In response to a claim made by the Trade Unions concerned, I have agreed, subject to the consent of the Board and the sanction of the Minister for Health, to increase the

wages of boilermen and heating boiler attendants by 3½d. and hour (13s. 9d. a week), with effect as and from the 1st July, 1955. The present rates for these employees are :—

Boilermen and Enginemen	—	£8	3s.	2d.	a week
Heating Boiler Attendants	—	£7	19s.	6d.	„

The cost of this increase will be approximately £550 in the current financial year.

T. O. BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon :—

Par. 10.—Noted.

Par. 13.—Noted. Report to be submitted as to the extent of the damage to the buildings.

Par. 16.—Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Smithers "That, pursuant to the provisions of Section 6 of the City and County Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, the Board consents to application being made to the Minister for Health for sanction to the revision of the remuneration of boilermen, engine men and heating boiler attendants, as proposed by the Manager."

Passed unanimously.

STAFF HOUSES AT PORTRANE.

The Manager reported verbally that he had received an application from the staff representatives for the installation of power points in the staff residences at Portrane. He informed the Board that he was disposed to instal one power point in each house, if the Board were agreeable. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr. J. Jones and seconded by Mr. A. Lalor "That two power points be installed in each of the staff residences at Portrane." A poll was taken and the

resolution was declared carried by 19 votes for to 3 against. The voting was as follows :—

For the motion :—Councillors Mrs. C. Byrne, Carroll, Colman, Delaney, Hughes, Larkin, Mrs. Nix, Timmons, Andrews, W. Lawless, P. McCarthy, Messrs. Cahill, Chase, Jones, Lalor, McStay, T. O'Reilly, Roulston and Smithers. (19).

Against the motion :—Councillor Bermingham, Mrs. Mulvey and Miss Ennis. (3).

NOTICE OF MOTION.

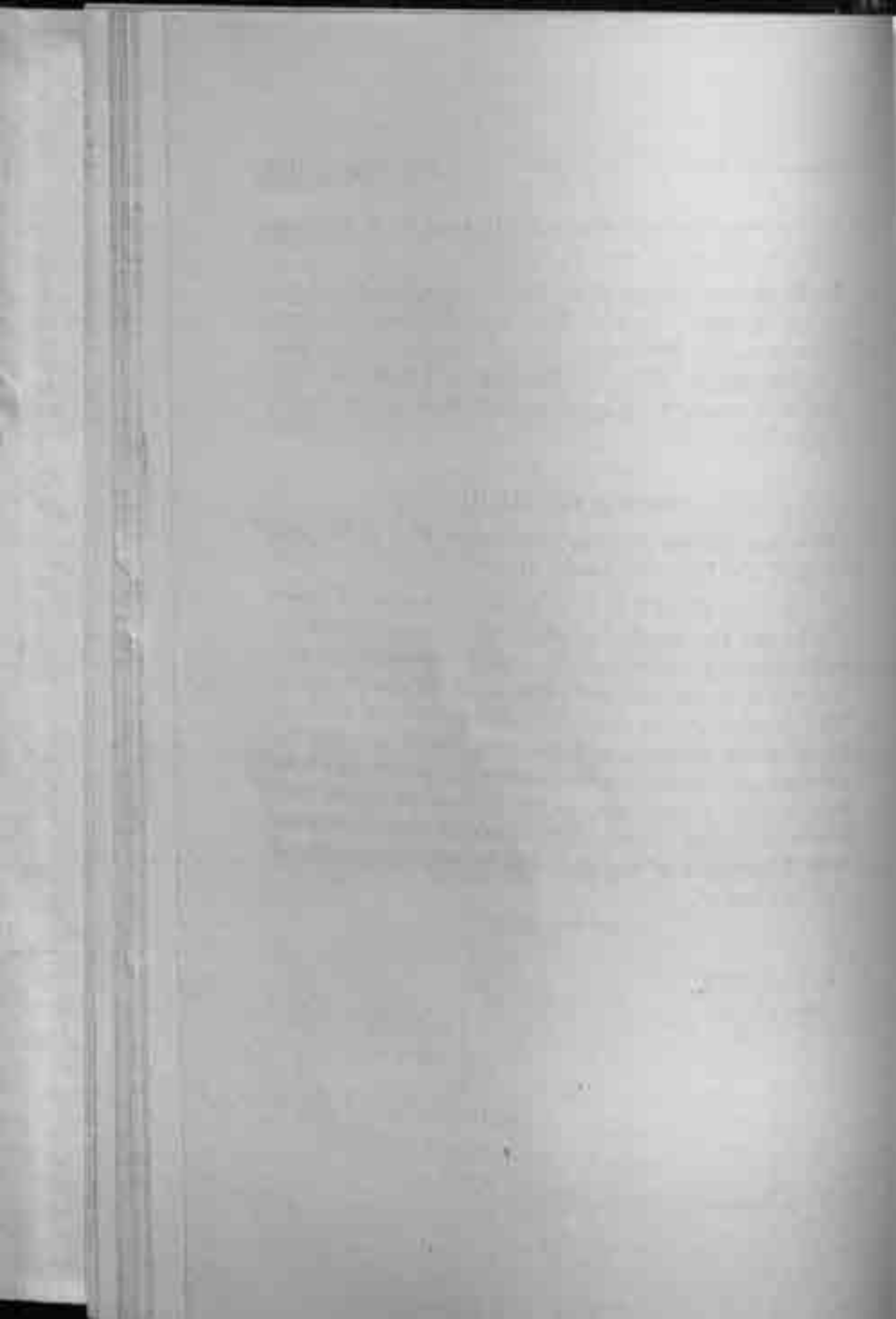
Councillor Gilbert Hughes gave notice that at the next meeting of the Board he would move :—

“That the Chief R.M.S. be requested to submit a report setting out the number of patients at present maintained in the Board's institutions who could be regarded as only technically certifiable and who could be maintained in other institutions or discharged without danger to themselves or to others; and that the Board examine the question of making representations, in conjunction with other similar institutions, to the Minister for Health with a view to having amending legislation introduced to relieve mental hospitals of responsibility for the maintenance of such patients.”

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.



*Report No. 254.**26th January, 1956.***Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.****AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.**

A Meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 26th day of January, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C., (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present:—Councillors James Andrews, C. M. Byrne, Gilbert Hughes, Eugene Timmons, William Lawless, Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Thomas P. O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Eunis:

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.*25th January, 1956.*

1. Since my last report of 24th November 9 Friesian milch cows were purchased for a total of £624 0s. 0d. and two Friesian springing heifers for £180 0s. 0d., total £804, average £70 9s. 1d. A deficiency of 50 gallons per day, approximately, has been experienced in Grangegorman since the first week of December and this shortage is being met by the purchase of liquid milk. It is expected that this is only a temporary shortage and that sufficient milk should be available from the herd, in early February, to give full supplies to both hospitals.

The present daily supply to Portrane is 265 gallons and Grangegorman 246 gallons. The average daily yield from 238 cows is 2.1 gallons.

The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of November.

<i>This month November</i>				
Over 5 gallons	...	...	5	1
4 - 5 "	...	...	12	8
3 - 4 "	...	...	43	30
2 - 3 "	...	...	65	78
1 - 2 "	...	...	99	104
Under 1 gallon	...	...	14	14
			<hr/> 238	<hr/> 241

2. The following is an account of (a) purchases (b) sales during the months of November and December.

	<i>Total cost</i>			<i>Av. per beast</i>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
(a) 8 Friesian milch cows	630	18	0	78	17	3
2 Friesian springing heifers	180	0	0	90	0	0
66 sheep	525	13	0	7	19	7
1 boar	50	0	0			

(b) Twenty-two calves were sold for the following prices—1 for £18, 1 for £17, 1 for £16, 4 at £15, 2 at £14, 2 at £13, 2 at £12, 1 at £11 0s. 0d., 1 at £11, 1 at £10, 2 at £9, 1 at £7 10s. 0d., 1 at £7, 1 at £6 9s. 0d. and 1 at £6; total £266 8s. 0d.

Twenty-eight bonhams were sold, 1 at £8, 2 at £7 5s. 0d., 2 at £7, 6 at £6, 11 at £5 15s. 0d. and 6 at £5 10s. 0d., total £168 15s. 0d. 42 store pigs were transferred to Grangegorman, 18 at £9 10s. 0d., 12 at £9 5s. 0d. and 12 at £8; total £378 0s. 0d.

45 store pigs were sold in the Dublin Market by Thomas McKeogh for £401 12s. 3d. nett. 20 fat pigs were transferred to Grangegorman, 10 at £19 10s. 0d. and 10 at £19 each; total £385 0s. 0d. 1 fat sow was sold in the Dublin Market by Thomas McKeogh for £25 6s. 9d. nett, also 15 fat pigs for £243 6s. 6d. nett.

3. *Mastitis*.—The position with regard to Mastitis may be considered as very satisfactory. Only a few cases of clinical Mastitis occurred during the past two months and all have responded to treatment.

4. I wish to amend paragraph 4 of my report of 24th November which should read:—

Abortion.—A few cases of abortions have occurred during the past few months. Some of the recent cases have been examined at the Veterinary Research Laboratory at Thorn-dale and it was ascertained that three were typical cases of contagious abortion and the remainder were due to different causes which are not considered dangerous to the herd. A test was also made on 12 cows recently served by the old Friesian bull; the result in these cases was satisfactory as no disease was found.

The number of abortions is of no serious consequence when compared with the number of cows calving normally.

5. *T.B. Testing*.—The six-monthly test of the herd was carried out during the months of November and December. A total of 560 animals were tested giving 25 reactors i.e. 4.5%. The figures for the previous test in June were 583 cattle tested, of which 81 reacted i.e. 13.9%. Considering the high reaction in June, I am very pleased with the result of the recent test and I am satisfied that the stringent precautions adopted are showing good results.

6. *Grass*.—There has been practically no growth of grass during the past two months and pastures which were stocked are now looking very bare. Spring manuring of the grasslands with artificials has not commenced yet, but it is hoped to make a start early in February.

All stock appear to be wintering extremely well.

7. *Crops*.—The digging of the potato crop finished on 29th December. A further 18 acres of winter wheat were sown since my last report.

A start has been made at spring work. Farmyard manure has been spread on about 15 acres of ground in preparation for early potatoes and this area is now being ploughed. An area of ground in the park field which was reclaimed and re-seeded last spring has now received a dressing of farmyard manure.

8. *Santry Court*.—The grass at Santry Court has grazed out well but it was found necessary to commence foddering at the beginning of December.

The young Friesian bull has been transferred from Portrane to Santry and is at present running with a number of heifers.

The present stock at Santry comprises 1 horse, 70 one-year-old heifers, 64 two-year-old heifers and 1 bull.

9. With the introduction of modern machinery to the farms, a number of older machines have become surplus to our requirements. I suggest that these be collected and prepared for sale together with the equipment purchased for the insemination laboratory. This equipment is no longer required and in my opinion it is not likely to be used again now that the Board is availing of the services offered by the Department.

I am of opinion that the quantity of machinery etc. available would justify calling a public auction.

JAMES HAYES,

Agricultural Manager.

Orders made thereon:—

Para. 1 to 8. Noted.

Par. 9. Recommended that machinery and equipment be sold by public auction.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDINER.

PORTRANE.

26th January, 1956.

1. *Winter Vegetables and Root Crops.*—The vegetable crop consisting of 5 acres Savoy cabbage, 7 acres broccoli, 2 acres swede turnips, 1 acre leeks and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre brussel sprouts, are all doing well and will be more than sufficient to meet the requirements of the two hospitals for the next twelve weeks. There remains in storage at the moment 3 tons of onions and 6 tons of carrots.

2. *Spring Cabbage (12 statute acres).*—The mild weather up to Christmas has caused this crop to make good growth. The first 4 acres planted is now whitening and should be fit for cutting by the end of March. I am preparing more ground for late sowing plants.

3. *Autumn Onions (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres).*—This crop has made good headway and is now in the young scallion stage.

4. *Kitchen Gardens and Recreation Grounds.*—All fruit trees have been pruned and manured; 1 acre of rhubarb has been manured and covered with stable litter. Indoor work consisted of taking 2,000 chrysanthemum cuttings, potting 100 indoor geraniums and mossing 3,000 geraniums for

bedding purposes. Renovating and preparing the south side of the New Female Unit is being carried out at the moment.

GRANGEGORMAN.

5. Autumn onions, leeks and lettuce crops are doing well. All idle ground is ploughed in readiness for spring tillage. Recreation grounds and shrubberies are in good condition.

ANDREW WOLOHAN,

Head Gardener.

Order, Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE FARMS.

1st December, 1955.

1. We visited the Farms and Gardens on 1st December, 1955. At Turvey we inspected the cows which were in good condition and a large number of very promising heifer calves that will, we are confident, make excellent cows.

The potatoes are slightly on the small side but the quality is first class and our Farm Manager and staff deserve our thanks and congratulations for their splendid handling of this important crop with particular reference to the job of pitting which, in our opinion, is a first class job of work. We also inspected our crop of Winter Wheat and again we were very impressed with the excellent tillage.

2. At Ballymastone, the calves were in good trim and everything was in order.

3. Portrane was clean and tidy. All stock showed care and attention. We inspected some of the purchased seed potatoes and they are of excellent quality.

4. The Gardens as usual were well kept. The onion crop was in our opinion the best for many years.

5. We strongly recommend that the area between the old Female and the new Female Units be cleaned and re-seeded for use as recreation grounds. We realize, of course, that this will mean an added responsibility for Mr. Wolohan, but we feel that this is a job that requires expert supervision, and one has only to see the remarkable job at our New Male Unit to see, if our recommendation is agreed to, the improvement it would make on this particular area.

We thank Mr. Hayes and Mr. Wolohan for their information and assistance.

W. LAWLESS,

J. SMITHERS,

J. ANDREWS.

Order. Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE FARMS.

19th December, 1955.

On Monday, 19th December, 1955, we visited Portrane Farms at Turvey, Ballymashone and Portrane farmyard. The older calves at Turvey are in excellent condition and will be a welcome addition to the dairy herd. The potatoes are plentiful if a trifle small and the Manager and his staff deserve praise for the excellent pits constructed at Turvey. Everything seems to be running smoothly. We should like to know what will become of the equipment in the Laboratory now that it is being closed.

In the gardens after lunch everything was found to be in order. Mr. Wolohan is to be complimented on the excellent supply of fresh vegetables he has available.

W. J. COLMAN,
T. O'REILLY,
M. C. ENNIS,
ANTHONY LALOR.

Order. Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 23rd February, date of next meeting of the Committee:—

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman),
" Gilbert Hughes,
" E. Timmons,
Mr. William Chase.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
" *Chairman.*
JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

FALCONER, DUNLAP.

Report No. 255.

16th February, 1956.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

BOARD MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 16th day of February, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman), in the Chair. The following members were also present :—

City of Dublin Representatives :—Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, James Carroll, P.C., Bernard Conway, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, P.C., William Chase, John Jones, Anthony Lalor, P. T. O'Reilly, Thomas P. O'Reilly, John Smithers and Ronald Roulston.

County Dublin Representatives :—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, James Andrews and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives :—Councillors C. M. Byrne, W. Lawless and P. McCarthy.

An apology for inability to attend was received from the Lord Mayor (Councillor Denis Larkin).

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 253, 12th January, 1956), were confirmed and signed.

CONDOLENCE

It was proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor W. J. Colman, "That we learn with deep regret of the death of Dr. Matthew Russell, former City M.O.H., and of Mr. T. J. Murray, a former member of the Board, and we tender to their families our sincerest sympathy with them in the loss they have sustained."

The resolution was adopted in silence, all present standing.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 31st January, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

	<i>Males Females Total</i>		
On Hospital Register at 31st			
December, 1955	...	...	...
Admitted during month	...	...	...
	1,768	2,054	3,820
	55	47	102
	1,821	2,101	3,922
<i>Males Females Total</i>			
Discharged during month	44	43	87
Died	"	"	9
Escaped	"	"	9
	53	52	105
Remaining on Hospital Register	1,768	2,049	3,817
Absent on trial and escape	...	19	36
	...	...	55
Remaining in residence	...	1,749	2,013
	...	...	3,762

DISTRIBUTION

In Grangegorman	...	...	894	1,224	2,118
In Portrane	...	...	855	789	1,644
Total number resident as above...			1,749	2,013	3,762

CHARGEABILITY

City of Dublin	...	...	2,865
County Dublin	...	...	506
County Wicklow	...	...	333
Criminal Lunatic	...	...	40
Non-district patients	...	...	18
TOTAL			3,762

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

Councillor William Lawless proposed and Mr. T. O'Reilly seconded the adoption of Report No. 254 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 26th January, 1956.
Passed unanimously.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN.

26th January, 1956.

1. We visited Grangegorman on the 26th January and accompanied by Dr. O'Brien, inspected No. 22 Hospital Division, where everything was in very good order. The T.B. pavilion also showed that proper care and attention

was being given to the patients. Division 22A, St. Clare's and St. Anne's wards showed exceptional taste in the colour scheme and the patient's appeared very well cared for.

2. In the Male House the patients were having dinner and we were pleased at the manner in which such a large number were catered for. The "wareite" table covers are a decided improvement.

3. In the kitchen the cooking seemed reasonably well done, but the large kitchen table looked rather dirtier than it should be, even after distributing the food. A wareite covering might be useful and on the trolleys likewise. Some attention might be given to a more thorough cleaning of the inside of the large tea cans.

4. In the Male Infirmary the patients appeared quite contented and the place was in good order.

5. We inspected the new division and were very pleased with the general lay out and the new furnishings. When they are fully occupied a wonderful improvement will be apparent.

We must express our thanks to Dr. O'Brien, Miss Sharkey, Matron, Dr. Geraghty, and Deputy Head Male Nurse Vero, for their assistance.

WILLIAM COLMAN.

MRS. K. NIX.

GILBERT HUGHES.

Order.—Noted. See Paragraph 24 of the Manager's Report.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

25th January, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane on Wednesday, January 25th, and first went to the Dining Hall. The mid-day meal for male patients had just concluded and we witnessed the preparations being made to cater for the female patients. Subsequently when the patients arrived, we observed that each was served with a substantial meal, and we received no complaints from any of them. We were impressed by the expeditious manner with which the meal was served, reflecting great credit to all concerned with the arrangements.

2. We examined the bread cutting and buttering machine, reported by last month's Visiting Committee as not working satisfactorily during cold weather. We confirmed that the butter, because of its frozen nature during very cold weather, does not spread evenly. The printed instructions for the use of the machine issued by the makers clearly lay down that the butter must be soft before being filled into the containers for spreading. After consultation with Mr. Chalmers, it was agreed to arrange for the removal of the press, where the daily butter supply is kept, across the room, so that it could benefit by the heat radiating from the hot pipes. Mr. Chalmers undertook, if necessary, to fit a hundred watt electric bulb in the press to assist the process of softening the butter.

3. With Miss Kelly, Housekeeper, Mr. Chalmers, and a representative of the firm of Consulting Engineers, we discussed at some length the proposals to cater for the patients who are to occupy the newly completed units. It is proposed to service the new units from the kitchen adjoining No. 8 Temporary Division. We were given to understand that

some of the equipment ordered had arrived, but obviously it will be a matter of some months before it can be installed. Arrangements are being made to install a "Heat Flow" unit to replace the old range now in use, and Miss Kelly kindly undertook to co-operate in the preparation of meals during the change-over.

All agreed that the transfer of patients from Grangeegorman to the new units should be so arranged that it will not unduly tax the resources of the catering staff, and it is suggested that batches of not more than 30 patients at a time should be sent to Portrane until adequate cooking facilities are available. It is a great pity that no steps were taken to provide additional kitchen facilities while the new units were in course of construction.

4. We visited the Laundry and saw a number of patients assisted by members of the staff busily engaged in their work. One of the washing machines appeared to be out of order, and it was suggested to us that the laundry should have a permanent skilled man to supervise the proper handling of the various machines which are operated. We were given to understand that the work of the laundry is hampered by the lack of patient labour. Most of the patients we saw working were elderly women performing the most arduous tasks and, having regard to small reward they receive by way of a few cigarettes, etc., they are to be congratulated for the manner in which they work.

One aspect of the work of the laundry which was pointed out to us is the difficulties encountered in the washing of linen and clothes belonging to incontinent patients. These are sent to the laundry when removed, but if there was some provision whereby the clothes could be swilled in the wards

before being sent to the laundry it would greatly facilitate the handling of them. This, we suggest, is a matter that should be examined with a view to its possibilities.

5. We gathered in the course of our inspection that copies of the Visiting Committee's reports are not made available to the senior officers of the institution. We suggest that such reports and also the reports of the Manager should be sent to each officer for his information.

In conclusion, we wish to place on record our thanks to Dr. Aird, R.M.S., Dr. Harte, the Matron, Miss Meenagh, Miss Kelly, Housekeeper, Mr. Chalmers, and the other members of the staff whom we met during our visit.

W. J. COLMAN.

J. CAHILL.

W. LAWLESS.

EUGENE TIMMONS.

Orders made thereon :—

Pars. 1 and 2.—Noted.

Par. 3.—Report to be submitted as to the final date of delivery and installation of the new equipment for No. 8 division kitchen.

Par. 4.—Refer to Manager for report to next meeting of the Board.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to 15th March, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board :—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman).

„ W. Lawless.

Mr. T. O'Reilly.

Mr. R. Roulston.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman).

" James Andrews.

" Mrs. Catherine Byrne.

Mr. William Chase.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

10th February, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's hospitals on the 7th instant, 3,770 patients, viz. :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Grangegorman		872	1,229
Portrane		880	789

as compared with :—

7th February, 1955	1,742	2,045	3,787
7th February, 1954	1,712	2,004	3,716
7th February, 1953	1,642	2,008	3,650
7th February, 1952	1,601	1,932	3,533

this year's number being 17 less than on the corresponding date last year, and 237 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. On the 10th ultimo, male patient J. D. (9162), a liberty patient, escaped off the grounds at Grangegorman. He had been working on the boilers and did not return for supper. He has not yet been located.

Male patient, S. S. (9534), did not return to Grangegorman off pass on the 26th ultimo. He was apprehended in O'Connell Street by Gardai on the 30th ultimo and brought back to the hospital by two male nurses.

These escapes have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

4. On the 23rd ultimo male patient, J. B. (4924), was missed from the general dining hall in Portrane when patients were being counted after lunch. It would appear that he made his way to No. 2 dayroom and got through a window there. The patient was recovered a few hours later at Donabate and brought back to the hospital. The Portrane Medical Superintendent has investigated the circumstances of this escape and he is of opinion that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection therewith.

5. *Accidents to Patients, Grangegorman.*—Female patient, C. S. (6084), rolled out of bed in the bedclothes on the 23rd ultimo, and sustained an impacted fracture of the lower end of radius. The Acting R.M.S. assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with this accident which has been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

6. *Accidents to Patients, Portrane.*—On the 10th ultimo, female patient, E. McC. (119), had a syncopal attack and fell off a chair in No. 3 dining room. She was removed to the hospital where examination showed clinical evidence of fracture of the left femur. The Portrane Medical Superintendent is of the opinion that the accident could not have been avoided. It has been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

7. *Accidents to Staff, Grangegorman.*—Nurse C. E. was incapacitated from the 16th to the 26th ultimo with injuries sustained in a motor accident while off duty.

Attendant A.K. was off duty from the 22nd to the 26th ultimo, with an injury to her left arm caused by a fall while on duty.

N.D., domestic, was off duty from the 22nd to the 30th ultimo, with an injury to her head.

Attendant J.F.D. accidentally twisted her right foot when going to the Nurses' Home on the 16th ultimo, and she has been off duty since that date.

Nurse B.S. slipped and fell when carrying a patient on a stretcher on the 2nd instant, and she has been off duty since that date.

A number of other accidents to members of the nursing staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

8. *Accidents to Staff, Portrane.*—Temporary Attendant G.P. was incapacitated from the 3rd to the 6th ultimo, by a bicycle accident which occurred while she was off duty.

A number of other accidents to members of the Portrane staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

9. The Visiting Committee which inspected Portrane on the 4th January, drew attention to the difficulties which were being experienced in operating the bread buttering machine. The Chief Engineer has since designed a device for softening the butter during cold weather which he expects will enable the machine to be operated satisfactorily.

10. The following are particulars of the results obtained in the mental nursing examinations held by An Bord Altranais in December last :—

Twenty-four Grangegorman candidates (9 male and 15 female attendants), sat for the Preliminary Examination, of whom 11 were successful (4 male and 7 female candidates). 18 candidates (5 male and 13 female attendants), sat for the final examination, all of whom were successful, including one general trained nurse who obtained Honours. Twenty-three Portrane candidates (4 male and 19 female attendants), sat for the Preliminary Examination, of whom 12 were successful (one male and 11 female attendants). Seven candidates (2 male and 5 female attendants), sat for the final examination, all of whom were successful.

11. The approved remuneration for fuel workers at Portrane is the Dublin County Council's rate for road workers for the time being in force. The Dublin County Council increased its rate for road workers by 8/6d. a week to £6 1s. 0d. a week from the 1st July, 1955. Subject to the consent of the Board I propose to apply this increase to fuel workers employed at Portrane. There is only one such worker at present.

12. The Department of Health has informed me that the plans submitted for the new treatment unit at Grangegorman have been considered and discussed with the Board's Architects with particular reference to the difficulty presented by the length of the proposed building. Some suggestions have been made by them to the Architect with a view to reducing considerably the area covered by the buildings, and giving the greatest number of beds the advantage of a southern aspect. At the request of the Department I have instructed the Architect to prepare a revised lay-out incorporating these suggestions.

13. As reported on the 12th ultimo, the Board's Architect is preparing working drawings for the reconstruction of the second block of temporary buildings at Grangegormann (formerly No. 2 Division). Pending completion of the plans I have approved of a proposal of the Clerk of Works that the services of a small number of direct labour workmen should be retained to clear the site for the new buildings, erect stores and latrines, and cut trenches for cold water mains. These men will be required also for the re-building of the Sports Pavilion, recently destroyed by fire, which will be put in hands now. The cost of re-building will be limited to the amount recovered from the Insurers, viz., £750.

With regard to the Board's application for a grant from the Hospitals Trust Fund towards the cost of reconstructing the temporary buildings, the Department of Health has informed me that no provision for such a grant has been made in the current hospital building programme, but the Minister has under consideration the question of providing funds for certain urgent works not covered by that programme. The Department has promised that when the matter has been finalised the decision about a grant towards the cost of reconstructing the temporary building will be communicated to the Board.

14. The Board's Architect has informed me that the new Children's Division at Portrane should be ready for occupation within five to six weeks, provided all equipment is delivered and sub-contracts are completed on time.

On his recommendation I have approved in principle acceptance of the tender of Mr. E. Stapleton, 19 Craigford Drive, Artane, for painting the new division. Mr. Stapleton

tendered £279 4s. 4d. for carrying out the work in emulsion paint, or £331 19s. 3d. in oil paint. The type of paint to be used is to be decided when the walls are dried out.

Other tenders received are as follows :—

	£ s. d.				£ s. d.		
No. 2. Emulsion Paint	372	15	4	Oil Paint	... 472	14	0
No. 3. " "	444	19	0	" "	... 496	7	0
No. 4. " "	588	5	0	" "	... 642	15	0

15. The change over in Portrane to the E.S.B. supply is progressing steadily.

At the last meeting I reported receipt of an application from the staff representatives for the installation of power points in the residences at Portrane and the Board approved of the installation of two such points in each house. I have since obtained from the Consulting Engineer an estimate of the cost of these points which is a great deal more than was anticipated. The contractor who is carrying out the general change over of the installation has quoted the following prices, viz. :—

Wiring one power socket in the scullery of each house in VIR cable in conduit, £7 per house Wiring a second socket in the living room in VIR cable in conduit, £5 7s 6d. per house

Alternatively

Wiring one power socket in scullery in Anthygron cable, £5 15s. 0d. per house. Wiring a second socket in the living room in Anthygron cable, £4 16s. 0d. per house.

The Consulting Engineer reports that he has gone over these prices with the contractors and investigated the costings and he is quite convinced that the prices submitted are the

lowest feasible, consistent with first class work and a small profit margin. The Consultant recommends that the installation be carried out in Anthygron cable instead of conduit in view of the lower cost.

The Chief Engineer at Portrane estimates that there are about 80 houses on the Estate without power points.

16. The No. 5 Steam Boiler at Portrane has recently been lifted for testing. It was found on test that the furnace tubes were wasted to a thickness of $\frac{1}{16}$ " in places and the report of the Insurance Company's Inspector states: "In view of the serious reduction in plate thickness and the fact that the boiler is approximately 60 years old, it is considered that it has reached the end of its useful life. No repairs are, therefore, recommended." I have referred this report to the Board's Consulting Engineer. It appears probable that the purchase of another new boiler may be necessary in addition to the boiler for which tenders have recently been invited.

17. With reference to the enquiry made at the last meeting of the Board, the Clerk of Works has carried out an examination of the roofs of the farm buildings at Santry Court with a view to estimating the extent of the damage caused by the removal of lead from gutters and valleys. He estimates that between £150 and £200 worth of damage may have been done.

18. I have received a request from the Operative Plasterers' and Allied Trades Society of Ireland that the plastering work in the new Pharmacy at Grangegorman should be carried out by direct labour. Having consulted the Board's Architect I am satisfied that it is not feasible to accede to the Union's request.

19. With the approval of the Minister for Health I have accepted the tender of Messrs. H. A. O'Neill, Ltd., in the sum of £25,085 14s. 1d. for the centralisation of the steam, heating and hot water services in the Male Section at Grangegorman.

Other tenders received were as follows:—

No. 2	...	...	£24,667
No. 3	...	...	£25,328
No. 4	...	...	£28,800
No. 5	...	...	£31,460

When the No. 2 tender was examined by the Board's Consulting Engineer, it was found that an item had been omitted and the firm in question withdrew its tender.

20. A number of firms which tendered for the supply of equipment for No. 8 Division Kitchen in Portrane have notified increases in prices owing to the increased cost of wages and materials since the original tenders were submitted. These increases are the subject of correspondence with the Board's Consulting Engineer.

With regard to the vegetable steamers ordered from Messrs. Technico, Ltd., the Consulting Engineer advises me that they are now available with stainless steel panels instead of vitreous enamel and, on his recommendation, I have agreed to the purchase of the stainless steel steamers at an extra cost of £94, which will bring the total cost of the two units to £1,042.

21. The Clerk of Works reports that the sum of £3,500 included for builders' work in the scheme for the Water Services Installation in the Female House at Grangegorman is likely to be exceeded by £250-£300. This part of the scheme is being carried out by direct labour, and unforeseen difficulties have been encountered in preparing roof spaces

for the new storage tanks. The total amount provided for the scheme in a recent loan was £20,050, which included a sum of £1,000 for contingencies.

22. It will be necessary to raise loans to meet the cost of the following capital works at present in progress :—

GEANGEGORMAN.

(a) *Centralization of steam, etc., services in Male Section :—*

	£
Contract with H. A. O'Neill, Ltd. ...	25,085
Builder's attendance (direct labour) ...	3,000
Engineer's Fees ...	2,702
Provision for increased costs since date of tendering ...	2,500
General contingencies ...	713
Total Estimated Cost ...	£34,000

PORTRANE.

(b) *Change-over of Electrical Installation to E.S.B. supply :—*

Contract for re-wiring ...	8,273
Building work and attendance ...	600
New alternator for diesel stand-by set ...	1,220
New sub-station ...	1,000
Engineer's fees ...	750
Architect's fees ...	80
Contingencies ...	711
	£12,634

(c) *Equipment for No. 8 Division Kitchen :—*

Equipment	...	...	...	4,271
Erection of equipment, pipe work and electric wiring	...	...	...	550
Food delivery van	...	...	...	1,600
Builder's work	...	...	...	450
Engineer's fees	...	...	...	450
Architect's fees	...	...	...	45
				<hr/>
				£7,366
				<hr/>

With regard to (b), a final decision has not been reached about the proposal to maintain a stand-by plant, but I consider it desirable to provide the necessary funds in case this should be necessary.

In the amount estimated for the new equipment for No. 8 Division Kitchen at Portrane, provision has been made for increased prices claimed by the suppliers, to which I referred in an earlier paragraph of this report.

I recommend that the sums of £34,000 for the capital works at Grangegorman, and £20,000 for the capital works at Portrane be borrowed from the Commissioners of Public Works repayable in equal half-yearly instalments over a period of thirty years, with interest on outstanding balances from time to time at the general rate in force under Section 12 of the Local Loans Fund Act, 1935.

T. O. BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO BOARD.*16th February, 1956.*

23. Since the 8th ultimo, 57 male and 46 female patients were admitted, total 103. One hundred of these were chargeable patients, of whom 51 were Temporary, 39 were Voluntary, and ten were Persons of Unsound Mind. One Voluntary Private Patient and one Temporary Private Patient were admitted. One patient was admitted by order of the Minister for Justice.

24. With reference to the Inspection at Grangegorman carried out on the 26th January by Councillors Colman, Mrs. Nix and Hughes, the Chief B.M.S. informs me that the table in the Male Kitchen which is mentioned in Paragraph 3 of their Report, is scrubbed with soap and soda and boiling water every day but that it has been found impossible to improve the colour. The appearance would be improved if the table could be covered with plastic, but it is doubtful if this material would stand up to the use which the table gets. The large tea cans to which the members refer have almost all been replaced.

25. At the Estimates Meeting on the 12th January last, the Board consented to my making application to the Minister for Health for sanction to an increase of ten per cent. in the basic remuneration of its nursing staff, accompanied by an increase of 6d. a day in the charge for rations, both with effect from 1st October, 1955.

The Board also authorised the expenditure of a sum of £17,500 in excess of the amount provided in the Official Estimate and Demand for the current financial year 1955-56, and increased by £30,000 the estimated net requirement in

the Estimate and Demand for 1956-57, in order to provide for increased remuneration for the nursing and other sections of the staff.

On 16th January application was made for the Minister's sanction to the increases proposed for the nursing staff, and on 2nd February I was informed that the Minister approved in principle the payment of increased temporary bonus to local authority staffs (for which he is the appropriate Minister) on the following basis:—

Rates of Increase in current remuneration:—

- (a) Officers whose remuneration is less than £300 per annum:
10% of remuneration as defined below;
- (b) Officers whose remuneration is £300 per annum or more but not greater than £2,000:
6½% of the amount by which remuneration (as defined) exceeds £300 per annum, plus £30 per annum.

Remuneration for the purposes of the calculation of these increases in temporary bonus is salary (including any temporary bonus hitherto authorised) plus the pensionable value of emoluments, whether received in cash or in kind, at the rates operative on 31st October, 1955. Remuneration does not include any fees, nor payments such as those for subsistence, travelling, substitution or overtime.

The earliest date from which the increased temporary bonus may be granted is 1st November, 1955.

As from the date from which the increased bonus becomes payable, the charge made for rations to officers on inclusive salaries will be increased by not less than £9 per annum (6d. a day); corresponding adjustments will be made in the case of officers who are entitled to free rations.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO BOARD.

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As from the date from which the increased bonus becomes payable, the charge made for rations to officers on inclusive salaries will be increased by not less than £9 per annum (6d. a day); corresponding adjustments will be made in the case of officers who are entitled to free rations.

The increases do not apply to persons remunerated on a fee basis, agricultural workers, tradesmen and others whose remuneration is related to local or trades rates for similar types of employment.

The increases may at any time be reconsidered, reduced or withdrawn.

The Trade Unions concerned have indicated acceptance of increases on the foregoing basis which does not vary substantially from that which I had proposed for the nursing staffs. Accordingly, I propose, subject to the consent of the Board and the formal approval of the Minister, to apply these increases to the Board's staffs, and to increase the value placed on rations by £9 a year (6d. a day), with effect from 1st November, 1955.

T. O. BROIN.

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:

Par. 11.—Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Smithers, "That the Board consents to the increase of 8/6d. in the wages of fuel workers, with effect from the 1st July, 1955." *Passed unanimously.*

Par. 13.—*Noted.*

Par. 15.—Proposed by Mr. John Smithers, seconded by Mr. Anthony Lalor, "That tenders be invited for the installation of power plugs in staff houses at Portrane." *Passed unanimously.*

Par. 21.—*Noted.*

Par. 22.—Councillor Mrs. Mulvey proposed and Councillor James Andrews seconded "That application be made to the Minister for Local Government for sanction to the borrowing of £34,000 (Thirty-four thousand pounds), for the purpose of defraying the cost of centralising the steam, heating and hot water services in the Male Section at Grangegorman Mental Hospital;

The said sum of £34,000 to be borrowed from the Commissioners of Public Works on the security of the rates leviable by and the Borough and County Funds of the Corporation of Dublin and the County Councils of Dublin and Wicklow, repayable in equal half-yearly instalments over a period of thirty years, with interest on outstanding balances from time to time at the general rate in force under Section 12 of the Local Loans Fund Act, 1935." *Passed unanimously.*

Mr. John Cahill proposed and Councillor Eugene Timmons seconded "That application be made to the Minister for Local Government for sanction to the borrowing of £20,000 (Twenty thousand pounds) for the purpose of defraying the cost of (i) the change-over of the electrical installation at Portrane to the E.S.B. supply, (ii) equipment for No. 8 Division Kitchen, Portrane.

The said sum of £20,000 to be borrowed from the Commissioners of Public Works on the security of the rates leviable by and the Borough and County Funds of the Corporation of Dublin and the County Councils of Dublin and Wicklow, repayable in equal half-yearly instalments over a period of thirty years, with interest on outstanding balances from time to time at the general rate in force under Section 12 of the Local Loans Fund Act, 1935." *Passed unanimously.*

Par. 25. Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Smithers, "That the Board consents to application being made to the Minister for Health for approval to the increases in staff remuneration as set out in Paragraph 25 of the Manager's Report of this date." *Passed unanimously.*

In accordance with notice given at the meeting on the 12th January, 1956, Councillor Gilbert Hughes proposed :—

"That the Chief R.M.S. be requested to submit a report setting out the number of patients at present maintained in the Board's Institutions who could be regarded as only technically certifiable and who could be maintained in other institutions or discharged without danger to themselves or to others; and that the Board examine the question of making representations, in conjunction with other similar institutions, to the Minister for Health with a view to having amending legislation introduced to relieve mental hospitals of responsibility for the maintenance of such patients."

The resolution was seconded by Councillor E. Timmons and adopted unanimously.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

FALCONER, DUBLIN.

Report No. 256.

23rd February, 1956.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 23rd day of February, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman), in the Chair. Also present:—Councillors James Andrews, Gilbert Hughes, William Lawless, E. Timmons, Messrs. Anthony Lalor, P. T. O'Reilly, Thomas P. O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.

23rd February, 1956.

1. Since my last report of 26th ultimo, two milch cows were purchased for £118 16s. 0d., one springing cow for £84 0s. 0d. and one springing heifer for £70 7s. 0d.; total £273 3s. 0d., average £68 5s. 9d. A deficiency of 40 gallons per day approximately has been experienced in Grangegorman during the month and this shortage was met by the purchase of liquid milk. At the moment the deficiency is only 24 gallons per day and it is expected that there will be full supplies available for both hospitals in another week or so.

The present daily supply to Portrane is 265 gallons and Grangegorman is getting from 228 to 276 gallons. The average daily yield from 237 cows is 2.13 gallons.

The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with last month:—

	<i>This Month</i>	<i>Last Month</i>
Over 5 gallons ...	3	5
4—5 " ...	13	12
3—4 " ...	45	43
2—3 " ...	64	65
1—2 " ...	97	99
Under 1 gallon ...	15	14
	<hr/> 237	<hr/> 238

2. The following is an account of (a) purchases, (b) sales during the month of January:—

	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Av. per Beast</i>
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
(a) 5 milch cows ...	374 10 0	74 18 0
1 springing heifer ...	90 0 0	
43 sheep ...	338 18 0	7 17 8

(b) Seventeen calves were sold for the following prices:—

One for £18, 3 at £16, 1 for £14, 1 for £12, 1 for £11, 2 at £9 10s. 0d.; 2 at £9, 4 at £8 10s. 0d., 1 for £8 and 1 for £7; total, £189 0s. 0d.

Nineteen bonhams were sold, 10 at £7 and 9 at £6; total £124 0s. 0d. 48 store pigs were transferred to Grangegorman, 24 at £9, 18 at £8 10s. 0d. and 6 at £7 10s. 0d.; total, £414. 30 store pigs were sold to Crookslings Sanatorium, 20 at £8 10s. 0d. and 10 at £7 15s. 0d.; total, £247 10s. 0d. 9 fat pigs were sold by Thomas McKeogh in the Dublin Market for £149 1s. 3d. nett, also 4 fat sows for £110 2s. 3d. nett.

3. *Mastitis*.—The position with regard to mastitis is very satisfactory on all farms. Only a few cases of clinical mastitis and two cases due to injury occurred during the month and all these have responded to treatment.

4. *Grass*.—The spring manuring of grasslands with artificials has been in progress for the past week. It is yet too early to forecast whether early grazing will be available on new pastures or not but given reasonable weather in early March grass should be available before the middle of the month.

5. *Fodder Supplies*.—It is apparent that fodder supplies for the maintenance of the livestock will be very scarce and should there be a late spring it may be necessary to purchase a limited quantity of hay. It is not proposed to purchase, however, until all available supplies have been used.

6. *Crops*.—The potato crop is being transferred from the pits to the sheds and supplies for the hospitals and for seed are being graded.

Farmyard manure is being applied to grasslands and the ground ploughed in preparation for the potato crop.

The winter wheat is making satisfactory progress.

7. *Santry*.—The livestock maintained on this farm is making satisfactory progress and has a run on the pastures during the day although grasslands are very bare.

The young friesian bull is proving very satisfactory. During the past three weeks he has served eleven heifers.

The present stock at Santry comprises 1 horse, 70 one-year-old heifers, 64 two-year-old heifers and 1 bull.

Order.—Noted.

JAMES HAYES,
Agricultural Manager.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER, PORTRANE.

23rd February, 1956.

1. *Crops*.—The areas remaining under winter crops are 3½ acres savoy cabbage, 6 acres broccoli, and one acre of leeks. There is in storage at the moment, 25 tons swede turnips, 3 tons carrots and one ton of onions.

The spring cabbage crop (12 acres) has made little progress since my last report. As soon as the weather is mild enough I will apply a dressing of nitrate of soda to this crop.

2. *Tillage*.—11 acres were tilled during the past four weeks.

3. *Kitchen gardens and Recreation Grounds*.—The spraying of fruit trees was completed last week and portion of the garden dug and manured in preparation for early spring sowings. Three hundred tomato seedlings were pricked off into soil blocks. Renovation around the New Female Unit is progressing favourably.

GRANGEGORMAN.

4. Pruning and manuring of fruit trees is completed and spraying of these trees is in progress at the moment. All idle ground is ploughed and in readiness for spring sowings. Recreation grounds, flower beds and shrubberies are in good order.

SANTRY.

5. Pruning and manuring fruit trees, cleaning walks and borders and preparing glasshouses for tomato plants.

ANDREW WOLOHAN,

*Head Gardener.**Order.—Noted.*

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE FARMS.

31st January, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane on Tuesday, 31st January, 1956, Mr. Hayes, Farm Manager, was kind enough to meet us at the Railway Station with his car. The farm at Turvey was in first class order, the byres clean and comfortable and the dairy work very efficiently carried out.

The magnificent potato pits were an outstanding feature and there is no doubt that the crop was very successful; the manner in which it was harvested reflects great credit on all concerned.

2. Fields reserved for grazing show a remarkably fine growth of grass and the silage production leaves nothing to be desired. The feeding of stock is certainly well provided for. The young calves housed here are about the best possible.

3. At Ballymastone we saw another lot of young calves which must certainly be the envy of any farmer in the country. Cleanliness and good order prevailed everywhere.

4. We inspected a fine job of drainage in progress in Smyth's Field, Portrane. In the farmyard everything looked in first-class order and we were very pleased to note the continued progress with the piggeries and the high quality of the young pigs being produced. Boars, sows and farrowing pens show the result of very efficient care and attention.

5. After lunch we visited the gardens and were pleased to note the progress made in laying out the surroundings of the newly built divisions. The greenhouses are now

receiving attention in propagation and potting work. We noticed a section of the greenhouse in a bad state of repair and would suggest that it be examined with a view to giving it some attention when the good weather comes.

The reclaimed garden is now fully cultivated and is a very fine job.

Our very best thanks are due to Mr. Hayes and Mr. Wolohan for their assistance.

W. J. COLMAN.
GILBERT HUGHES.
EUGENE TIMMONS.
WILLIAM CHASE.

Orders made thereon : -

Para. 1 to 4.—Noted.

Par. 5.—Head Gardener will discuss with Chief Engineer.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 22nd March, 1956, date of next meeting of the Committee :—

Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman).

“ James Andrews.

“ William Lawless.

Mr. John Smithers.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

FALCONER, DUBLIN.

Report No. 257.

15th March, 1956.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

BOARD MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman), in the Chair. The following members were also present :—

City of Dublin Representatives.—Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Kevin Boland, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Bernard Conway, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Thomas O'Reilly, John Smithers and Ronald Rouleton.

County Dublin Representatives.—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews, P.C. and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives.—Councillors William Lawless and P. McCarthy.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 255 of the 16th February, 1956), were confirmed and signed.

CONDOLENCE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman), proposed, and Mr. T. O'Reilly seconded: "That we learn with deep regret of the death of Alderman Alfred Byrne, former Lord Mayor, and we tender to his family our sincerest sympathy."

Miss M. C. Ennis proposed, and Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman), seconded: "That we learn with deep regret of the death of Mr. Richard Lawless, a former member of the Board, and we tender to his family our deepest sympathy."

The resolutions were adopted in silence, all present standing.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 29th February, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

	M.	F.	Total
On Hospital Register at 31st Jan., '56	1768	2049	3817
Admitted during month	51	37	88
	1819	2086	3905
	M.	F.	Total
Discharged during month	39	59	89
Died do.	11	8	19
Escaped do.	1	—	1
	51	58	109
Remaining on Hospital Register	1768	2028	3796
Absent on trial and escape	12	16	28
Remaining in residence	1756	2012	3768

DISTRIBUTION.

In Grangegorman	...	...	839	1228	2067
In Portrane	...	...	917	784	1701
Total number resident as above			1756	2012	3768

CHARGEABILITY.

City of Dublin	...	...	2873
County Dublin	...	...	507
County Wicklow	...	...	330
Criminal Lunatics	...	...	40
Non-district patients	...	...	18
TOTAL			3768

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

Councillor E. Timmons proposed, and Councillor Gilbert Hughes seconded the adoption of Report No. 256 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 23rd February, 1956.

Passed Unanimously.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN.

1st March, 1956.

1. Accompanied by the Storekeeper, Mr. Murphy, we inspected the stocks. Stocks of clothing, blankets, etc., were good, but at the moment, owing to alterations, it is

rather divided up. We are sure he will be pleased to get into the new store which is just completed. The meat was of excellent quality.

2. Accompanied by Dr. E. O'Brien, we inspected all the wards in No. 22 Division. There was little to report or comment upon. The general condition of the wards was good.

3. Proceeding to the male house with Dr. Geraghty, we visited the various hospital divisions. Here again there was little to report and conditions were seen to be good. While we were visiting the kitchen lunch was being served and we must comment on the good order in which it is handled. We would ask that some protective material be provided to cover the trolleys when a quantity of food is handled.

4. After lunch we made a general inspection of the principal workshops, viz., the Tailors, Shoemakers, Weaving and Therapy. We were pleased with the number of patients employed. They all seem to like their work. In the Tailor's shop production was up to standard, but we would recommend that a cutting machine be installed. This would help materially and be in keeping with modern conditions. The building which houses the shoemaker's shop, both internally and externally, is in a very bad condition. There is much congestion, which hampers progress. The cutting machine is out of order and needs immediate attention.

Work at the Therapy Department was proceeding as usual. The patients were taking a very keen interest and the Department reflects credit on those in charge.

We are grateful to Dr. E. O'Brien and Dr. Geraghty for their help during the inspection.

W. J. COLMAN.
WILLIAM LAWLESS.
T. O'REILLY.
R. ROULSTON.

Order. Refer to Manager for report.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

21st February, 1956.

1. An Inspection was carried out at Portrane Mental Hospital on Tuesday, 21st February.

As it was snowing heavily we were very glad to accept a lift from Mr. Cullen from the station to the Hospital, as otherwise we should have had to sit in the cold Waiting Room until the bus arrived.

We return our thanks to Mr. Cullen for his kindness.

2. The Laundry was inspected first as we had discussed the question of shortage of workers at the last Board meeting.

There is no doubt about it a man will have to be put in charge of the machinery in the Laundry as it is impossible for Miss McGuinness to carry on the work efficiently under present conditions. There are only 22 workers in the Laundry at present and 16,000 articles are washed and ironed weekly. In 1954 there were 32 workers turning out 14,840 articles weekly, and in 1948 there were 46 workers turning out 9,600 articles.

One patient in the Laundry, an old woman of 70, was dragging heavy wet articles from the boilers and placing them in Trolleys. It was almost inhuman to see this old woman doing such work. Another patient, a thin girl, was doing work which would require about three people. This poor girl informed us she got 15 "Kerry Blue" cigarettes per week and she only likes "Woodbines." Surely we could see that she gets "Woodbine" as she is invaluable in the Laundry.

As soon as the young nurses are trained in the working of the Laundry, they go on Night Duty and a fresh batch must then be trained. This hinders progress. It would be a good thing if the Manager were to visit the Laundry and see the prevailing conditions.

3. In the Kitchen we saw lunch being put into hot containers and taken to the Dining Hall to which we proceeded, and saw the patients having an excellent dinner about which we did not receive one complaint.

4. The Bread and Butter machine was examined. The Attendant in charge told us the machine was excellent, but the butter when hard just cannot be used. The cupboard where the butter is now stored, with an electric lamp burning, does not seem to be a solution, as the butter was as hard as a rock.

We spoke of the "heels" of the loaves being buttered and were told that some of the patients were very fond of "heels" and all were eaten—there was no waste.

5. All the corridors were well swept and clean looking and much better aired than on our previous visit.

6. On looking out of a window in the corridor we saw huge bones lying among the grass. Some were like sheep's heads.

We were told by Miss Kelly that the dogs steal them out of the bins and carry them off periodically. These bones are gathered and kept for a man who calls and removes them. It might be well to have lids on the bins that cannot be lifted by the dogs as in warm weather flies would become very numerous with such bones lying around.

7. We inspected the meat in storage and found it of excellent quality.

8. The heating throughout the Hospital was very good as the weather was bitterly cold.

We thank Doctors Aird and Harte for their kindness and courtesy to us.

WM. COLMAN.

WM. CHASE.

JAMES ANDREWS.

CATHERINE BYRNE.

Order. See Par. 21 of the Manager's Report of this date.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangeorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to 12th April, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board :—

GRANGEORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman).

„ Mrs. Catherine Byrne.

Mr. William Chase.

Mr. R. Roulston.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman).

" Mrs. M. Mulvey.

" Mrs. K. Nix.

Mr. Anthony Lalor.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

9th March, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on 6th instant, 3,777 patients, viz. :—

		Males	Females	Total
In Grangegorman	...	824	1,241	2,065
In Portrane	...	929	783	1,712
Total	...	1,753	2,024	3,777
as compared with :—				
6th March, 1955	...	1,742	2,035	3,777
6th March, 1954	...	1,710	2,014	3,724
6th March, 1953	...	1,641	2,003	3,644
6th March, 1952	...	1,615	1,941	3,556

this year's number being the same as on the corresponding date last year and 221 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. Male patient P. McD. (9007), a liberty patient in No. 9 Division at Grangegorman, was missing from his ward at bedtime on the 7th February. The usual steps were taken to locate him but without result.

On the 12th February, male patient S.B.M. (8355), a liberty patient, left No. 2 Division at Portrane at 2.15 p.m. He failed to report back in the Dining Hall for supper at 5 p.m. The usual steps were taken to locate him but without result.

These escapes have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

4. ACCIDENTS TO PATIENTS (Grangegorman):

On the 27th February, male patient E.O'B. (9402), aged 72 years, got out of bed in No. 5 Division and accidentally fell hitting his shoulder against the end of the bed. He sustained a fracture of the left humerus.

On 10th February, female patient E.M. (7184), aged 81 years, slipped from a fireside chair and fell lightly to the ground. She did not complain and walked to her bed afterwards. Next day she was reluctant to walk and an X-ray examination revealed an impacted fracture of left femoral neck. The patient developed some pulmonary congestion with pyrexia but appears to be improving now.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

Male patient J.McC. (9701), had received injuries to the face and left hand before admission on the 26th February. An X-ray examination showed a fracture of the little finger of the left hand.

5. ACCIDENTS TO PATIENTS (Portrane):

On the 8th ultimo, male patient, J.K. (7630), while going into the dining hall for tea in No. 8 Division received a kick from another patient P.M. (4709). An examination of the former patient showed severe injuries and he was transferred to Grangegorman for treatment. The Portrane Medical

Superintendent has thoroughly investigated this occurrence, and he is satisfied that it was the result of a sudden impulsive action on the part of P.M. (4709), which could not have been anticipated and that no blame can be attached to members of the nursing staff. The Minister for Health has been duly informed of the incident.

6. ACCIDENTS TO STAFF (Grangegorman) :

Nurse P.K. slipped and fell when coming on duty on the 20th February, and has been off duty since that date with an injury to his right wrist.

Attendant E.D. injured her left hand when lifting a bucket of coal on the 1st instant and has been off duty since that date.

7. ACCIDENTS TO STAFF (Portrane) :

Nurse M.D. has been off duty since the 13th February, with an injury to his ankle sustained while playing football the previous day.

A number of other accidents to members of the Portrane staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

8. With reference to the resolution adopted by the Board at its last meeting about the provision of alternative accommodation for aged patients who require only simple care, I have to report that this matter has been under consideration for some time by a Special Committee on over-crowding in Mental Hospitals, appointed by the Minister for Health.

I am at present in correspondence with the Department of Health about the possibility of finding such accommodation in the City area, and the Wicklow County Council is examining the question of transferring to one of their Institutions in Rathdrum, a number of aged patients from that County.

For the moment I can only say that the prospect of relieving overcrowding in the Board's Hospitals in this manner is fairly promising. I will report fully in the matter when concrete proposals have been worked out.

9. Construction of the two new Units at Portrane is virtually completed, and I assume the Board would wish to mark the occasion by having a formal opening ceremony. The Minister for Health has very kindly agreed to attend for that purpose and he has suggested that Thursday, 12th April, at 3.30 p.m. would be a suitable date and time.

10. On the recommendation of the Board's Consulting Engineer, I have authorised Messrs. Lynch, Ltd., to carry out the electrical work in the new Pharmacy at Grangegorman at an estimated cost of £350. Messrs. Lynch agreed to undertake this work at the same rates as those used for their contract for No. 4 Division, and the Consulting Engineers advise that these rates are very keen.

11. On the recommendation of the Board's Architect I have approved of the erection of an additional partition in the new Stores Building at Grangegorman at an estimated cost of £50. This partition will provide a separate compartment for soap and leather stocks.

12. On the Architect's recommendation also, I have accepted the tender of Messrs. J. J. O'Hara & Co., Ltd., for laying linoleum in the New Children's Division at Portrane at 35/- per square yard, plus 9d. for wax polishing, being the lowest of four tenders received.

13. On the suggestion of the Department of Health arrangements have been made for the holding of a Psychiatric Clinic

in the Dublin Corporation's Health Clinic at Crumlin, on one day a week from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The clinic will be attended by medical officers from Grangegorman, and it will commence as soon as the Minister's formal approval has been obtained to its establishment.

14. An offer has been received of a secondhand billiard table with accessories which the owner has no longer any use for and which he is prepared to sell to the Board for £30. The table has been inspected by Messrs. Burroughs & Watts, Ltd., who have quoted £41 18s. 8d. for erecting it at Grangegorman and carrying out all necessary repairs. As I am advised that the table represents very good value at a total cost of £72, I have accepted the offer and arranged for its installation in No. 9 Male Division at Grangegorman.

15. With reference to Paragraph 2 of the report of an inspection at Portrane carried out by the Chairman, Councillors Andrews and Mrs. Byrne and Mr. Chase on the 21st February, I inspected the Laundry at Portrane on the 1st March in company with the Portrane Medical Superintendent and the Chief Engineer. I agree that some additional help is needed in the Laundry, and I have approved of the employment of a temporary wash-house man for a trial period of six months when the matter will be reviewed.

16. One of the Hall Porters at Portrane died some months ago and the other has retired recently. The Portrane Medical Superintendent has recommended that these posts should be filled by two male mental nurses. I approve of that recommendation, and I would ask the Board's consent to an increase of two in the authorised number of male nursing posts at Portrane which will be accompanied by a reduction of two in the number of permanent non-nursing posts.

17. The opening of the new Male Unit at Portrane requires the appointment of a Charge Nurse (Male), and a Deputy Charge Nurse (Male), and I would ask the Board's consent to this further addition to the permanent male nursing staff at Portrane. An increase in the ordinary nursing staff will also be necessary; the precise number will be determined and reported after a little experience of the working of the new unit.

18. I have received an application for an increase of 9/- a week from the 2nd January, 1956, in the wages of the butcher employed at Portrane. This increase is in accordance with a general agreement made between the Trade Unions concerned and the Master Victuallers' Association, and I propose to grant it subject to the consent of the Board.

19. I have just received a copy of an order made by the Minister for Local Government which brings into operation, from 1st March, 1956, Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1955. This Section changes the law relating to the payment of travelling expenses and subsistence allowances to members of local authorities in respect of attendances at meetings. I am having prepared a full report on these changes which will be submitted to the meeting of the Board on 15th instant.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO BOARD.

15th March, 1956.

20. Since 12th ultimo, 58 male and 60 female patients were admitted, total 118. One hundred and thirteen of these

were chargeable patients, of whom 67 were temporary, 31 were voluntary, and 15 were Persons of Unsound Mind. There were also admitted two private patients (one temporary and one voluntary), and three patients from Mountjoy Prison by order of the Minister for Justice.

21. With reference to the inspection carried out at Portrane on 21st ultimo by the Chairman, Councillors Andrews and Mrs. Byrne and Mr. William Chase, I have to report :—

Item (ii) : The question of the staffing of the Laundry is dealt with in my report of 9th instant.

Item (iv) : This problem is still under examination. The Chief Engineer has constructed an electrically-heated insulated metal bowl which is being tested. During cold weather the butter will be stored for some hours before use in a special wooden container beside the heating pipes.

Item (vi) : Bones from the General Kitchen are deposited in a bin in the yard which is cleared at regular intervals. The bin is covered and bones could be removed by dogs only when it is overfilled. Arrangements have been made to have the bin cleared at shorter intervals and a more secure catch has been fitted.

22. The Architect's draft working drawings and the Consulting Engineer's preliminary report on the Mechanical Services for the reconstruction of the Temporary Buildings at Grangeurman (formerly No. 2 Division) have been received and have been transmitted to the Department of Health for the Minister's approval, subject to certain modifications suggested by the Chief R.M.S. The Chief R.M.S. advises also that it will be necessary to utilize the reconstructed building for the accommodation of female patients.

23. In connection with the change-over of Portrane to the National Electricity Supply, the Board's Consulting Engineer reports that the E.S.B. required the laying of a new cable from the sub-station at the powerhouse to the Farmyard. As the laying of a new cable would cost approximately £1,500, the Consulting Engineer has suggested the provision of a separate low tension supply to the Farmyard. The E.S.B. has agreed to this alternative but they require the Board to accept an addition of £5 to the two-monthly fixed charge, to meet the additional capital outlay involved on their part. The Consulting Engineer recommends acceptance of this additional charge and I have authorised him to do so.

24. The Consulting Engineer reports also that delivery and installation of the additional equipment for No. 8 Division at Portrane should be completed by the end of next month. He points out that final approval to the purchase of part of the equipment was not obtained until October last.

25. It is expected that the formalities in connection with the lease of the plot of ground at Santry Court to the Clonliffe Harriers will be completed within the next week or two, and the Club hopes to take possession on 1st April next. They have asked that the rent should be payable only from the date on which they get possession and that the period for payment of the fine should operate from the same date. As this is in accordance with normal practice I have agreed, subject to the approval of the Board.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:—

Par. 9.—On the proposal of Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Anthony Lalor, it was agreed unanimously that the two new units at Portrane would be opened at 3.30 p.m. on

Thursday, 12th April, and that the usual monthly meeting of the Board would be brought forward to that date and held in Portrane at 2 p.m.

Par. 16.—On the motion of Mr. John Smithers, seconded by Councillor B. Conway, the Board unanimously consented to an increase of two in the authorised number of male nursing posts at Portrane, accompanied by a reduction of two in the number of permanent non-nursing posts.

Par. 17.—On the motion of Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor Gilbert Hughes, the Board unanimously consented to an increase of one each in the number of permanent posts of Charge Nurse (Male), and Deputy Charge Nurse (Male) at Portrane.

Par. 18.—On the motion of Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Smithers, the Board unanimously consented to an increase of 9/- a week from the 2nd January, 1956, in the wages of the butcher employed at Portrane.

Par. 19.—See order on special report *re* travelling expenses and subsistence allowances.

Par. 25.—Approved unanimously, on the motion of Mr. John Smithers, seconded by Councillor William Lawless.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES OF MEMBERS.

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 67 (2) of the Local Government Act, 1946, the following resolution was adopted unanimously at a meeting of the Board held on 15th May, 1947:—

"That, as and from the 1st October, 1946, in lieu of defraying the expenses of locomotion actually incurred,

the Joint Board shall pay to each member in respect of every meeting which he attends at a place not less than five miles by any route from his official residence, one shilling for every mile between his official residence and the place of meeting, and on the return journey, measured along the route by which the member would ordinarily travel, the sanction of the Minister for Local Government to which is requested."

the sanction of the Minister to which was conveyed in a letter (G. 12594/2/47), dated 9th June, 1947, from the Department of Local Government.

2. Section 67 (7) of the Local Government Act, 1946, provided that where a member of a local authority attended a meeting at a place not less than three miles by any route from his official residence and was obliged by reason of such attendance to remain away from his home for a continuous period of not less than three hours, the local authority should in addition to any travelling expenses, pay an allowance in respect of such period calculated in accordance with rules prescribed by the Minister. These rules were contained in the Local Authorities (Allowances to Members) Order, 1946, and provided that the allowance should be :—

4/6d. where the continuous period of absence from home was less than seven hours and more than three hours, and

7/- where the continuous period of absence from home was not less than seven hours.

Before payment of an allowance could be made to a member he was required to furnish a claim in writing giving particulars of the date and place of the meeting or meetings attended by him and of the precise hours at which he left home to attend the meeting and at which he returned to his home.

3. A letter dated May, 1947, from the Department of Local Government advised that members of visiting committees carrying out official visits of inspection might be paid travelling expenses and subsistence allowances on the same scale and subject to the same conditions as for attendances at meetings.

4. The Minister for Local Government recently has made an order bringing into operation from 1st March, 1956, Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1955, which concerns the payment of travelling expenses and subsistence allowances to members of local authorities.

With effect from 1st March, 1956 :—

(a) For the purpose of calculating travelling expenses and subsistence allowances, the official residence of a member is his ordinary place of residence. Immediately after appointment a member must notify the local authority of his ordinary place of residence and must similarly communicate any subsequent change of address.

(b) Under previous legislation a subsistence allowance could not be paid to a member attending a meeting at a place less than three miles from his residence. Section 67 of the 1955 Act reduces this limit of three miles to one mile.

(c) A local authority may by resolution decide that an inclusive allowance for travelling and subsistence, not exceeding an amount to be prescribed by the Minister, shall be paid to members living less than five miles away who are obliged by reason of attendance at a meeting to remain away from home for a continuous period of not less than three hours. Under the County Councils and Mental Hospital Boards (Allowances to Members) Order,

1956, the Minister has fixed the maximum amount of this allowance at 13/6d. Where this method of payment is adopted, the allowance thus paid will be in lieu of any allowance which would otherwise be payable.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

15th March, 1956.

It was proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Catherine Byrne: "That the second paragraph (added by Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1955), of Sub-Section (7) of Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1946, shall apply in relation to the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board with effect as and from 1st March, 1956;

And that the inclusive allowance in respect of travelling and subsistence to be paid to a member for each attendance covered by that paragraph shall be the sum of thirteen shillings and sixpence."

Passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

1. Letter dated February, 1956, from the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances, Ltd., enclosing for completion a form for the appointment of a nominee to represent the Board and on their behalf to vote and exercise every right and power incidental to membership.

Order. Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Catherine Byrne, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Nix: "That Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman), be appointed as the Board's nominee."

Passed unanimously.

2. Letter dated 17th February, from the Dublin County Council, stating that the Council at its meeting on the 13th February, accepted the resignation of Councillor Gerard B. McCarthy from the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board, and that the vacancy would be filled at the meeting of the Council to be held on the 12th March.

Order. Noted.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

*Report No. 258.**22nd March, 1956.*

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 22nd day of March, 1956, Councillor William J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present :—Councillors James Andrews, Gilbert Hughes, William Lawless, Eugene Timmons, Messrs. William Chase, P.T. O'Reilly, Thomas P. O'Reilly, Anthony Lalor, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.

22nd March, 1956.

1. Since my last Report of the 23rd ultimo, no milch cows have been purchased. Slight deficiencies amounting to approximately 30 gallons per day occurred up to the 5th instant, when full supplies became available; this shortage was met by the purchase of liquid milk for Grangegorman.

The present daily supply to Portrane is 290 gallons and Grangegorman is getting full requirements. The average daily yield from 249 cows is 2.34 gallons.

The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with last month.

	<i>This month</i>	<i>Last month</i>
Over 5 gallons ...	1	3
4-5 gallons ...	14	13
3-4 " ...	47	45
2-3 " ...	72	64
1-2 " ...	79	97
Under 1 gallon ...	36	15
	249	237

2. The following is an account of (a) purchases, (b) sales during the month of February:—

	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Average per beast</i>
(a)	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1 milch cow ...	58 16 0	—
1 springing cow ...	84 0 0	—
1 springing heifer ...	70 7 0	—
42 sheep ...	337 16 0	8 0 10

(b) Nineteen calves were sold for the following prices:—
Four at £15, 5 at £13, 3 at £10, 4 at £9 and 3 at £8; total £215.
Thirty bonhams were transferred to Grangegorman at £6 15s. 0d. and six store pigs at £7 15s. 0d each; total £249 0s. 0d. One boar was sold in the Dublin Market by Thomas McKeogh for £19 9s. 9d. nett, also two fat pigs for £33 2s. 6d. nett and two fat sows for £51 13s. 0d. nett.

3. *Mastitis*.—The position with regard to mastitis is satisfactory. There has been no case on Ballymastone or Turvey recently. A few cases have occurred at Portrane Farm; these received the usual treatment, but a couple of these did not respond and have lost quarters.

4. *Grass*.—The grass on new pastures has made good growth considering the harsh weather and grazing by day for some of the milch cows was available on Portrane on the 7th, Ballymastone on the 9th and on Turvey on the 11th. The light milkers on Turvey Farm were out night and day from the 15th instant and the heavy milkers from 17th instant. The manuring of the pastures with artificials has been progressing favourably and the early grass on all farms has received a dressing. Supplies of silage are almost finished and hay is getting scarce. To date $7\frac{1}{2}$ tons of old meadow hay have been purchased for the calves at Santry; unless there is a change in the weather shortly, it will be necessary to purchase supplies of hay for all farms.

5. *Crops*.—The potato crop is being transferred from the pits to the sheds and supplies for the hospitals and for seeds are being graded. The manuring and ploughing of the ley proceeds in preparation for the potato crop and a further eight acres remains to be manured. Winter wheat is looking very well and is making good progress. Ground has been prepared and six acres of early potatoes are planted. Ground has also been prepared for the sowing of the Spring wheat.

6. *Auction*.—A clearance auction of old surplus machinery was held on the 9th instant with a complete clearance at satisfactory prices.

7. *Santry*.—The livestock maintained on this farm are all in good health and have a run of the pastures during the day.

The pastures are very bare with the exception of 14 acres of new grass, which is doing very well and is at present being grazed by a number of young calves.

The young friesian bull is proving very satisfactory and to date twenty heifers have been served, of which three have repeated.

Seventy acres of the pastures have received a dressing of artificials on this farm and the remainder will be done at an early date.

The present stock at Santry comprises 1 horse, 79 one-year-old heifers, 64 two-year-old heifers and 1 bull.

JAMES HAYES,

Agricultural Manager.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER.
PORTRANE.

22nd March, 1956.

1. *Crops.*—The area under vegetables in season at the moment is as follows:—2 acres savoy cabbage, $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres broccoli, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre leeks, 22 ton swede turnips, 3 tons carrots and $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of onions. Other crops not in season at the moment are:—13 acres cabbage, $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres broccoli and $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres shallots. These crops are making good progress and will be fit for use before the present supply is exhausted.

2. *Tillage and Sowings.*—With the present spell of dry weather good progress was made in the spring work and the following sowings have been made, viz., 4 acres onions, 4 acres parsnips and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre seed beds. Seven acres of ground have been tilled and prepared for crops.

3. *Gardens and Recreation Grounds.*—Work carried out in this section was as follows:—Sowing peas, beans, lettuce, turnips and leeks, preparing and fumigating tomato house and first germicidal spraying of fruit trees. Hoeing and

weeding flower beds and borders on hospital grounds, applying fertilizer to bowling greens and Sports grounds. A further 2½ acres of ground has been renovated and prepared for grass seed around the new Units.

GRANGEGORMAN.

4. Three acres have been ploughed and tilled in preparation for crops. Small sowings of lettuce, peas, beans, leeks and parsley have been made during the past month. Other work carried out was as follows:—Renovating Sports Grounds and top-dressing bowling greens.

SANTRY GARDENS.

5. Work carried out in this unit consisted of pruning and spraying fruit trees, preparing tomato houses, cleaning flower borders and taking chrysanthemum cuttings.

ANDREW WOLOHAN,

Head Gardener.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, FARMS AND GARDENS.

1. We visited our Farms and Gardens on the 9th March.

Mr. Hayes met us at Santry and we inspected our stock there. We are of the opinion that our young heifers (numbering roughly 160) would compare very favourably with any herd in this country, and we note with satisfaction that

our herd of cows are now practically self-contained. Our recently purchased Friesian Bull has improved immensely and is now a very valuable animal.

2. With regard to our building at Santry Court we strongly recommend the demolition of all structures not in use and we would like to put on record our dissatisfaction with our local Gardai with regard to the stealing of a very large amount of lead which has gone unchecked.

3. At Turvey the Cows looked well cared for and we were glad to note that here bedding of straw was the procedure and in this connection we recommend that an estimate for a milking parlour be sought for Portrane as we are of the opinion that cows require bedding and comfort and this is denied them at Portrane due to lack of proper milking facilities.

The calves at Turvey are up to the highest standard and we congratulate the Farm Manager and staff on their appearance.

4. We recommend the installation of a water system, including toilet, for the Herd's house at Turvey. Our attention was drawn to the need for this when we called there to request the removal of a very unsightly building. We, also, recommend the erection of a gate wide enough to allow machinery to pass through for the purpose of tilling the plot attached to the lodge as we feel the entrance to our Farm at Turvey is not in keeping with the rest of our splendid Farm there.

5. We inspected part of our potato crop and found the quality extra good, although a bit on the small side, but

we realize the 1955 crop was smaller than usual in every County.

6. Portrane Farm Yard was very active due to an auction and the Farm Manager is to be complimented on the success of this venture.

We inspected the six young sows bought by the Manager recently and found them of excellent quality and consider them good buying.

7. The Gardens as usual presented a good appearance and we found preparations being made for the sowing of the various seeds necessary to ensure a full supply of vegetables to our institutions, and we are convinced that there isn't a Head Gardener or Superintendent in the country with the same responsibility as Mr. Wolohan, and we feel sure that there isn't an institution in the country that enjoys such freedom from worry with regard to the perpetual supply of fresh vegetables.

We thank Mr. Hayes and Mr. Wolohan for their co-operation on our tour of inspection.

W. LAWLESS.

J. SMITHERS.

J. ANDREWS.

W. J. COLMAN.

Orders made thereon:—

Adopted unanimously on the motion of Councillor J. Andrews, seconded by Mr. John Smithers.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEE.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 26th April, 1956, date of next meeting of the Committee :—

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

Miss M. C. Ennis.

Mr. Anthony Lalor.

Mr. T. O'Reilly.

E. M. MURRAY,

Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,

Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,

Chief R.M.S.

Report No. 259.

12th April, 1956.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.

BOARD MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Portrane Mental Hospital, Donabate, Co. Dublin, the 12th day of April, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman), in the Chair. The following members were also present :—

City of Dublin Representatives :—Alderman Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D., Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., James J. O'Keeffe, Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, P.C., William Chase, John Jones, Anthony Lalor, P. T. O'Reilly, T. P. O'Reilly, John Smithers and Ronald Boulston.

County Dublin Representatives :—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C. and James Andrews, and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives :—Councillors C. M. Byrne, William Lawless and P. McCarthy.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Councillor C. Lehane.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 257 of the 15th March, 1956), were confirmed and signed.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 31st March, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

		Males	Females	Total
On Hospital Register at 29th				
February, 1956	...	1,768	2,028	3,796
Admitted during month	...	62	75	137
		1,830	2,103	3,933

		M.	F.	Total			
Discharged during	month	53	50	103			
Died	do.	19	8	27			
Escaped	do.	—	—	—	72	58	130

Remaining on Hospital Register	...	1,758	2,045	3,803
Absent on trial and escape	...	17	19	36
Remaining in residence	...	1,741	2,026	3,767

DISTRIBUTION.

In Grangegorman	...	799	1,214	2,013
In Portrane	...	942	812	1,754
Total number resident as above		1,741	2,026	3,767

CHARGEABILITY.

City of Dublin	...	...	2,871
County Dublin	...	...	504
County Wicklow	...	...	331
Criminal Lunatics	...	...	42
Non-district patients	...	...	19
TOTAL			3,767

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. Lawless proposed and Mr. T. O'Reilly seconded the adoption of Report No. 258 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 22nd March, 1956. *Passed unanimously.*

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN.

20th March, 1956.

1. An Inspection was carried out at Grangegorman Mental Hospital on Tuesday, 20th March.

In the Female Workshops all the women were working contentedly and happily. The work was of a good standard.

2. After we had visited the Kitchen and saw the meal which was to be served we proceeded to the Main Dining Hall and saw 460 patients enjoying an excellent dinner.

The smaller dining rooms were also visited and we heard the patients praising the dinner which they ate heartily.

3. The Female Hospital was bright and cheerful and all the patients seemed very comfortable.

4. No. 17 Division was given a short visit as some of the patients were noisy and we did not want to upset them unnecessarily.

5. No. 11 corridor which is used as a dormitory seemed cold although the pipes were warm.

6. No. 27 Dayroom looked very bright and cheerful with plants on the tables and cushions on the chairs and couches.

7. We noticed how fresh No. 25 Dayroom looked since it was painted and the curtains toned well with the colour scheme.

8. A request for a griller in the main kitchen should be given consideration as it would prove most useful. This has been requested before.

9. We would like to know if nothing could be done to provide hot water after 5 p.m. in the Nurses' Home. It seems absurd that nurses can only have a bath in the morning or during the day before 5 p.m. Many prefer a bath before going to bed.

10. We received no complaints, but a few patients had the usual request to get home as soon as possible.

11. We were grateful to Dr. Geraghty and Miss McCormack for their courtesy in showing us around.

12. Work in the Laundry was being carried out in an efficient manner and all the patients seemed contented. There were no complaints here at all.

WILLIAM COLMAN.

WILLIAM CHASE.

RONALD ROULSTON.

CATHERINE BYRNE.

Order.—Noted. See Manager's Report of this date.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

28th March, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane Hospital on Wednesday, 28th March, and saw the new workman in the Laundry. He has proved invaluable in the heavy work and has eased the strain on the workers here.

2. The kitchen staff were preparing Irish Stew for the male divisions. The food was well cooked and looked very appetising.

3. We then visited Nos. 6 and 7 female hospital divisions. The wards were bright and sunny and the patients were very happy. Both divisions reflect great credit on the staff.

4. The Pharmacy seemed well stocked and efficiently laid out. Stocktaking was in full swing and all the staff were busy.

Drs. Aird and Harte accompanied us, and we wish to thank them for their courtesy and assistance during the visit.

W. J. COLMAN.
ANTHONY LALOR.
KATHLEEN NIX.
MARY MULVEY.

Order. Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to 17th May, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board :—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).
" Gilbert Hughes.
" E. Timmons.
Mr. T. P. O'Reilly.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).
" Mrs. Catherine Byrne.
" Mr. P. T. O'Reilly.
" W. Lawless

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

12th April, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on 9th instant, 3,788 patients, viz. :—

			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
In Grangegorman	...	...	807	1,235	2,042
In Portrane	...	...	939	807	1,746
TOTAL			1,846	2,042	3,788

as compared with :—

9th April, 1955	...	1,732	2,040	3,772
9th April, 1954	...	1,721	2,006	3,727
9th April, 1953	...	1,656	2,028	3,684
9th April, 1952	...	1,615	1,978	3,593

this year's number being 16 more than on the corresponding date last year and 195 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. Since 12th ultimo 51 male and 53 female patients were admitted, total 104. Ninety-nine of these were chargeable patients, of whom 59 were temporary patients, 28 were voluntary patients, and 12 were Persons of Unsound Mind. There were also admitted four Private Patients (three Voluntary and one Temporary), and one patient for special treatment under Section 208 of the Mental Treatment Act, 1945, from Ballinasloe Mental Hospital.

3. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

4. J. D. (9790), a male voluntary patient, failed to return from the Visiting Hall at Grangegorman on the 21st ultimo. A male nurse was sent to the patient's home but he refused to come back to the Hospital.

D. H. (9735), a male voluntary patient, was missing when patients returned from the exercise grounds at Grangegorman on the 27th ultimo. Two nurses were sent to the patient's home but he refused to return.

H. R. (9656), a male temporary patient, did not return to Grangegorman off 48 hour pass on the 3rd instant. Male nurses were sent to his home and he was brought back on the 4th.

On the 10th ultimo, male patient J. M. (42060), failed to return to Portrane off parole. He was located by Gardai in County Kildare the following day and brought back to the hospital by two male nurses.

On the 24th ultimo, male patient J. L. C. (8574), a liberty patient in No. 2 division at Portrane, failed to return at supper time. He returned at 12.45 a.m. the following morning of his own volition.

On the 24th ultimo, male patient G. O'M. (43381), a liberty patient in No. 2 division at Portrane, failed to return at supper time. He was located by Gardai in Co. Dublin on the 26th ultimo and brought back to the Hospital by two male nurses.

The foregoing escapes and recaptures have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

5. *Accidents to Patients (Grangegorman).*—Male patient C. G. (9768), aged 57 years, who had been very restless and

confused since his admission on the 13th ultimo, was found on the 20th ultimo to have a bruise on his left arm. An X-ray examination showed an impacted fracture of head of left humerus. The patient had been under special continuous observation but the injury may have been present on admission.

On the 24th ultimo, female patient M. P. (32158), aged 68 years, was seen to have a small black mark on the left shin which an X-ray examination showed to be due to fracture of tibial bone. The patient is confined to bed with debility and hypertension. She is unable to leave the bed unaided, and there is no history of her trying to do so. She is restless and, being very debilitated, the Chief R.M.S. considers it possible that the injury occurred from movement in bed.

On the 21st ultimo, female patient M. O'H. (8218), aged 75 years, when rising from a night chair, over-balanced and suddenly caught hold of a screen but she did not fall. The following day a bruise was noticed on her arm and an X-ray on the 4th instant revealed possible fracture of the left styloid process. Her progress to date is reported to be satisfactory.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

6. Accidents to Patients (Portrane).—On the 5th ultimo, female patient J. T. H. (34356), aged 52 years, fell on the dayroom floor in No. 2 division, sustaining an intro-capsular fracture of the right femur. She is unable to give any account of the accident. She appears to have become weak as the nurse who witnessed the accident states that the patient changed colour before she fell to the floor.

On the 27th ultimo, female patient T. G. (32874), aged 80 years, while getting into bed, fell against it. She later com-

plained of pain in the right leg which showed clinical evidence of a fracture of the right femur.

The Portrane Medical Superintendent assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

7. *Accidents to Staff (Grangegorman).*—Nurse M. M. injured his shoulder when playing football with the hospital team on the 1st instant, and he has been off duty since that date.

Nurse J. D. was off duty from the 18th ultimo to the 2nd instant with injuries sustained when knocked off his bicycle by a motor car.

Nurse J. H. had her hair pulled and was kicked by a patient on the 6th instant. She received medical attention but she did not go off duty.

8. *Accidents to Staff (Portrane).*—Female Attendant D. O'T. was bitten on the left thumb by a patient on the 27th February. She received medical treatment but she did not go off duty.

Attendant M. M. was off duty from the 19th to the 27th ultimo with a scalded leg sustained when she spilt tea over it on the 18th.

J. W., farm labourer, was absent on the 5th ultimo and again from the 10th to the 26th ultimo as a result of an injury sustained when he fell off a tractor.

M. O'C., farm labourer, was absent from the 15th to the 21st ultimo, having strained his side while working on the 13th.

M. S., farm labourer, was kicked by a cow on the left leg on the 14th ultimo and was off duty for one day.

9. Further to Paragraph 13 of my report of the 9th March,

the consent of the Minister for Health has been obtained to the establishment by the Board of a Psychiatric Clinic at Crumlin Health Clinic.

10. With reference to the report of an Inspection at Grange-gorman carried out by Councillors Colman and Lawless, and Mr. T. O'Reilly and Mr. R. Roulston, I have to report :—

Item (iii). It is agreed that the trolleys in the kitchen are in bad condition, and it is proposed to obtain new ones during the current year.

Item (iv). The building which houses the Shoemaker's and the Weaver's Shops is in such a bad state of repair that it is doubtful that any expenditure on improving it would be justified. This is one of the matters which will have to be dealt with when some more urgent building problems have received attention.

11. With reference to the report of an inspection carried out at Grange-gorman on the 20th March by Councillors Colman and Mrs. Byrne, and Messrs. William Chase and Ronald Roulston, I have to state :—

Item (viii). The Clerk of Works will discuss with the Housekeeper the question of providing a grill for the main kitchen in the Female House.

Item (ix). The question of the hot water supply to the Nurses' Home has been the subject of a report from the Board's Consulting Engineer. It is linked up with the second stage of the programme for the improvement of the water services in the Female House which I propose to discuss with the Consulting Engineer at an early date.

12. The following are particulars of tenders for General Supplies accepted for the period of six months ending 30th September, 1956, viz. :—

(a) DUMAX MEAT SUPPLIERS, LTD.

Price

April, 1955.

Prime Beef ...	@ 49 13s. 8d. a cwt., d/d Grange-	£13 1s. 6d. a cwt.
	gorman and Portrane.	
Mutton ...	@ 49 6s. 8d. a cwt., d/d Grangegorman	£11 4s. 6d. a cwt.
Sheep Liver	@ 3s. 6d. a lb., d/d Grangegorman	3s. 6d. a lb.
Mutton Cutlets	@ 3s. 6d. a lb., d/d Grangegorman	

(b) PATRICK MURPHY, LTD.

Creamery Butter.	@ £19 15s. 2d. per cwt., d/d Grange-	£19 15s. 2d. a cwt.
	gorman.	

JOHN CLARKE & SONS, LTD.

Creamery Butter.	@ £19 15s. 6d. per cwt., d/d Portrane,	£19 15s. 6d. a cwt.
	both less 5/- each for empty boxes returned.	

(c) JAMES SINDLE & CO., LTD.

Fresh Selected New eggs.	@ £1 12s. 6d. per 120, d/d Grange-	£1 12s. 6d. per 120
	gorman.	
	@ £1 12s. 6d. per 120, d/d Portrane ...	£1 12s. 6d. per 120

(d) B. O'ROURKE & CO., LTD.

Flake Oatmeal	@ £87 10s. 6d. per ton, d/d Grange-	£87 10s. 6d. a ton
	gorman and Portrane.	

(e) M. & P. HANLON, LTD.

Cod, hake or ling.	@ 1/11d. per lb., d/d Grangegorman	2½d. a lb. d/d
	@ 2/- per lb., d/d Portrane	Grangegorman & Portrane.
Haddock ...	@ 1/8d. per lb., d/d Grangegorman	1/3d. a lb. d/d
	@ 1/3d. per lb., d/d Portrane	Grangegorman & Portrane.
Whiting ...	@ 1½d. per lb., d/d Grangegorman	10½d. per lb. d/d
	@ 1/- per lb., d/d Portrane	Grangegorman.
Chickens	@ 2/11d. per lb., d/d Grangegorman	11d. per lb. d/d
		Portrane.
		3/4d. a lb. d/d
		Grangegorman.

PATRICK KELLY.

Chickens ...	@ 3/- a lb., d/d Portrane	3/6d. a lb. d/d
		Portrane.

(f) MADDEN'S STORES.

Pork @ 2/2d. per lb., d/d Grangegorman.
Sausages, 1 oz. @ 22/4d. per lb., d/d Portrane ...

(g) HILL & SONS, LTD.

Woollen @ 7/6d. per lb., d/d Grangegorman and 7/3d. per lb.
Yarns Amiens Street Station for Portrane.
Finishing @ 1/- per yard ... 11d. per yard.
Tweed.

(h) MADDEN'S STORES.

		d/d G'orman	d/d Portrane	
Rice ...	@ per cwt.	£2 18s. 6d.	£2 18s. 6d.	£3 5s. 6d. a cwt.
Bread Soda ...	@ per cwt.	18s. 6d.	18s. 2d.	18s. 6d. a cwt.
Malt Vinegar	@ per gal.	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d.	4s. 7d. a gal.

CARTON BROS., LTD.

Raisins	@ per cwt.	£8 1s. 4d.	£6 2s. 4d.	£2 8s. 6d. a cwt., d/d Grangegorman.
(American),				£2 8s. 6d. a cwt., d/d Portrane.
Green Peas ...	@ per cwt.	£3 6s. 6d.	£3 8s. 6d.	£5 0s. 6d. a cwt., d/d Grangegorman.
				£5 1s. 6d. a cwt., d/d Portrane.

P. J. NEA & SONS.

Cornflour ...	@ per cwt.	£2 8s. 6d.		£2 13s. 6d. a cwt.
Mustard ...	@ per 9 lbs.	£1 11s. 4d.	and d/d	3/6d. a lb.
Baking Powder	@ per lb.	3s. 1d.	Amiens	3/2d. a lb.
Prunes ...	@ per cwt.	£8 4s. 11d.	Street	£6 10s. 6d. a cwt.
Browning ...	@ per do., bottles.	£1 7s. 8d.	Station for Portrane.	£1 8s. 11d. a doz.
Jacob's Biscuits	@ 23½% discount on retail prices.			Retail prices less 15% less 10%.

ALEX. FISHLAND & CO., LTD.

Currants ...	@ per cwt.	£6 10s. 6d.	£6 11s. 6d.	£6 1s. 6d. a cwt.
White Pepper	@ per lb.	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d.	5s. 6d. a lb.
Mixed Spice	@ per lb.	2s. 6d.	2s. 6d.	1s. 6d. a lb.
Figs ...	@ per cwt.	£5 12s. 6d.	£5 12s. 6d.	£4 18s. 6d. a cwt.
Dates ...	@ per cwt.	£4 4s. 6d.	£4 4s. 6d.	

IRISH DIRECT TRADING CO. LTD.

Soda Water,

Ginger Ale,

Ginger Beer,

Lemonade:

Large size... @ per doz.	5s. 3d.	5s. 3d.	5s. 3d. a doz.
Medium size ..	3s. 0d.	3s. 0d.	3s. 0d. "
Small size ...	2s. 3d.	2s. 3d.	2s. 3d. "
Syphons ...	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	12s. 0d. "

13. On the recommendation of the Agricultural Manager, I have accepted the following tenders for farm machinery, as being the most acceptable of five tenders received for one or more of the items required, viz. :—

T. LENEHAN & Co. LTD. :

One International Green Crop Loader for £146 5s. 0d.

One Douglas Saddle Harrow for £7 8s. 6d.

T. MCKENZIE & SONS, LTD. :

Aitkenhead No. 3, 16 ft. tractor chain harrow for £43 5s. 0d.

Aitkenhead No. 2, horse chain harrow, for £14 13s. 0d.

A. C. BAMLETT, LTD. :

Bamlett No. 9, horse mower with grass board, for £66 8s. 2d.

14. On the recommendation of the Board's Architect, I have accepted the tender of McGee Bros., Ltd., in the sum of £318 6s. 0d. for plastering work in the new Pharmacy at Grangegorman, being the lower of two tenders received.

15. On the recommendation of the Clerk of Works, I have approved of the purchase of 40 tons of steam coal during April from each of the following firms :—McKenzie & Co. Ltd., Wallace Bros., Ltd., Thomas Heiton & Co., Ltd., Tedcastle

McCormick & Co., Ltd., and M. Doherty & Co., Ltd. All these firms quoted the same price, viz., £8 14s. 0d. per ton delivered.

16. In 1952, tenders were received for a dough divider for the bakery at Grangegorman, the lowest price obtained being £250. Two machines offered at that price were tried out in turn and both proved unsuitable. The Clerk of Works reports that it is difficult to obtain a suitable machine owing to the fact that the dough is fed from overhead by means of a chute. In his opinion the machine which would suit the Board's requirements is one manufactured by Messrs. Baker Perkins & Co., Ltd., which costs approximately £850. He has been offered a secondhand machine of this type which, on trial, has proved very satisfactory, and I have approved of his recommendation that this machine be purchased at the price of £395 with a twelve months' guarantee.

A sum of £450 for this machine was provided in a loan of £4,000 approved in 1953.

17. In the Consulting Engineer's estimate of the cost involved in the change over of Portrane to the E.S.B. supply, there was included a sum of £1,220 for a stand-by supply. The existing equipment in the power station includes an 80 h.p. diesel engine which was used to drive a d.c. generator at night during the summer months when the steam engines were closed down. To provide a stand-by for use in periods of main supply failure it will be necessary to instal an a.c. generator with an automatic starter. The new generator will be driven by the existing diesel engine.

The Chief R.M.S. agrees with the Consulting Engineer that the provision of a stand-by generator is essential, and I propose, subject to the Board's agreement, to submit this proposal for approval of the Minister for Health.

18. The contract for the electrical work in the Female Visiting Hall at Grange-gorman includes a P.C. sum of £615 for reconditioning the existing 35 m.m. cinema projector which is located in the Female Dininghall and installing it in the New Visiting Hall. It appears probable that the actual cost of the work will be considerably in excess of that sum. The Board's Consulting Engineer has now recommended the installation of a new 16 m.m. projector at a cost of £700, and he advises that the installation of this projector will effect saving in incidental costs for ventilation and fire precautions which are necessary with the 35 m.m. films.

A portable 16 m.m. projector has been used in Grange-gorman for some time past to give performances around the hospital to patients who are unable to visit the cinema hall. If the machine now recommended by the Consulting Engineer is installed in the Female Visiting Hall a single booking of a programme of films will suffice for all performances in Grange-gorman in any week.

I have approved of the Consulting Engineer's recommendation in principle, subject to the agreement of the Board and the consent of the Minister. The proposed reconditioning of the 35 m.m. projector will be abandoned.

19. I have received an application from the Caretaker at Broadmeadow Waterworks for an extension of his dwelling-house because the present accommodation is insufficient. It consists of a living room, a bedroom and a scullery on the ground floor, and two bedrooms on the upper floor, with a total area of 364 square feet. The family consists of four boys, six girls, and the two parents.

The Chief Engineer reports that the lay-out of the house would lend itself to the construction of a bedroom directly over the ground floor bedroom, and he estimates the cost of

this work at approximately £300. I would ask the Board to authorise this expenditure for which provision has not been made in the current year's estimate and demand.

20. The Minister for Health has certified that the following contributions should be made by the Board towards the costs and expenses incurred by the various Trade Unions in representing members of the staff at inquiries held in Portrane on the 3rd June, 1953, and the 1st September, 1953, and subsequent days, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.
Irish Transport and General Workers' Union	316	7	0
Workers' Union of Ireland	349	19	0
Irish Local Government Officials' Union	73	16	0
Irish Women Workers' Union	59	2	0

and he has requested that the Board will arrange to pay these amounts.

The total sum involved is £799 4s. 0d., for which no provision has been made in the official Estimate and Demand for 1956-57.

21. The Minister for Local Government has informed me that the rate of interest payable in respect of advances made from the Local Loans Fund on and after 10th March, 1956, will be $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ per annum. Up to that date the rate was $4\frac{1}{2}\%$.

22. For many years past a whole-time Pathologist has been employed in the Laboratory at Grangegorman. In 1954 the post became vacant and difficulty was experienced in obtaining a whole-time substitute, pending a permanent appointment on the recommendation of the Local Appointments Commission.

On 1st September, 1954, a temporary pathologist was engaged for part-time duties at a salary of £800 a year. The conditions of his engagement require his attendance for not less than twenty hours a week—the former whole-time pathologists attended an average of 40 hours a week.

In October, 1954, the Chief R.M.S. reported that the employment of a whole-time Pathologist was essential to cope with the work in the Laboratory and that, in fact, the part-time temporary Pathologist was virtually attending whole-time. Application was then made for the approval of the Minister for Health to the Pathologist's appointment in a whole-time temporary capacity with remuneration at the rate of £1,400 per annum. Pending completion of a review of the Pathological services available generally in the Dublin area, the Minister has not approved that proposal, but it is hoped that the matter will be resolved shortly.

It would appear equitable to compensate the part-time Pathologist for the additional work which he has been carrying out, and I propose to pay him a special bonus of £320 in respect of the year 1955-56, subject to the consent of the Board and the approval of the Minister.

T. O. BROIN,
Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:

Par. 17.—Approved unanimously on the motion of Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Jones.

Par. 18.—Approved unanimously on the motion of Mr. John Cahill, seconded by Mr. T. P. O'Reilly.

Par. 19.—Proposed by Councillor E. Timmons, seconded by Councillor W. Lawless, "That the Manager be authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £300 in excess of the amount provided in the official Estimate and Demand for 1956-57, on the extension of the Caretaker's house at Broadmeadow Waterworks, and that a detailed estimate of the cost be submitted before the work is put in hands." *Passed unanimously.*

Par. 20.—Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Smithers, "That the Manager be authorised to expend a sum of £799 4s. 0d. in excess of the amount provided in the official Estimate and Demand for 1956-57 on the payment of contributions towards the costs and expenses incurred by the various Trade Unions in representing members of the staff at Inquiries held in Portrane on 3rd June, 1953, and 1st September, 1953, and subsequent days, in accordance with the direction given by the Minister for Health." *Passed unanimously.*

Par. 22. Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Nix, seconded by Mr. Anthony Lalor, "That, pursuant to the provisions of Section 6 of the City and County Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, the Board consents to application being made to the Minister for Health for sanction to the payment of a special bonus of £320 to the temporary Pathologist at Grangegorman." *Passed unanimously.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter dated 14th March, 1956, from the Dublin County Council stating that the Council at their meeting on 12th March elected Councillor H. P. Dockrell, T.D., 'Birnám,'

Adelaide Road, Glenageary, Co. Dublin, to fill the vacancy on the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board caused by the resignation of Councillor G. B. MacCarthy. Councillor Sean Dunne, T.D., was re-elected to the Board at the same meeting.
Noted.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk,

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

*Report No. 260.**26th April, 1956.*

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 26th day of April, 1956, Coancellor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present:—Councillors James Andrews, C. M. Byrne, Gilbert Hughes, William Lawless, E. Timmons, Messrs William Chase, Anthony Lalor, P. T. O'Reilly, Thomas P. O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER

1. Since my last report of 22nd ultimo milk production has been well maintained, and it was possible to give full supplies, with some surplus to both hospitals. At the moment Grangegorman is getting from 276 to 300 gallons and Portrane from 270 to 296 gallons daily.

The present average daily yield from 246 cows is 2.5 gallons.

The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of last month :—

	<i>This month</i>	<i>Last month</i>
Over 5 gallons	3	1
4 - 5 "	21	14
3 - 4 "	54	47
2 - 3 "	87	72
1 - 2 "	59	79
Under 1 gallon	22	36
	<hr/> 246	<hr/> 249

2. The following is an account of (a) purchases, (b) sales of Livestock during the month of March :—

	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Av. per beast</i>
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
(a) 52 sheep	421 9 0	8 2 1
6 pedigree store sows ...	240 9 0	40 1 6

(b) Twenty-eight calves were sold for the following prices :
 One for £14, 2 at £11, 1 for £10, 11 at £9, 3 at £8, one
 for £7 10s. 0d. and 9 at £7; total, £239 10s. 0d.
 Forty-two bonhams were transferred to Grangegorman,
 18 at £7 5s. 0d. and 24 at £6 15s. 0d. each; total,
 £292 10s. 0d.

3. *Mastitis*.—The position with regard to mastitis may be considered satisfactory. Only a few cases of clinical mastitis occurred in Ballymastone and Portrane farms during the month, all of which responded to treatment.

4. Grass.—Although grass was very plentiful and made good growth in the early season, it now appears that if there is not a change in the present weather shortly, there will be a scarcity in the near future. Pastures are slow to recover after the first grazing. So far, only 27 acres have been reserved for silage, and it appears that the cutting of this and the hay crops will be rather late.

Pastures on all farms have now received the basic spring-dressing of fertilisers. This work was completed on 21st instant.

All the cattle in Portrane, Ballymastone and Turvey farms were out on grass, night and day, by 26th ultimo. The following is an account of when full grazing became available on these farms.

Portrane	...	Light cows on 19th Heavy cows on 24th
Ballymastone	...	Light cows on 19th Heavy cows on 26th
Turvey	... ..	Light cows on 15th Heavy cows on 17th Calves on 19th Springers on 24th

5. Crops.—The sowing of the corn crops has now been completed and to date 50 acres of early sown corn has been under-planted with grass-seeds.

The manuring and ploughing of ground in preparation for the potato crop was completed on 27th ultimo. Forty-five acres of this crop have now been planted, and the balance of 48 acres, of which 23 acres are tilled and ready for planting, is being sown by the mechanical planter.

6. *Santry*.—All pastures have made satisfactory progress on this farm, especially the 14 acres of new grass which has made exceptionally good growth, maintaining a batch of 42 young calves without further feeding. The remaining 40 acres of grasslands have now received the basic dressing of artificials. Grass was available from 2nd instant for 95 cattle, which left 41 still on foddering. On 13th, however, all cattle were being maintained on pastures.

A batch of 21 two-year old heifers were transferred from Santry to grass in Broadmeadow, leaving the present stock in Santry comprising 1 horse, 43 two-year old heifers, 55 one-year old heifers, 35 calves and 1 bull; total, 135

JAMES HAYES,

Agricultural Manager

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDNER.

PORTRANE.

26th April, 1956.

1. *Winter Crops*.—With the exception of broccoli and leeks, the supply of all winter vegetables and roots is now exhausted. The first cutting of young spring cabbage commenced this week, and, with the present supply of broccoli, I have no fear of any scarcity occurring during the next three months.

2. *Autumn Onions*.—This crop is making good progress, and I hope to be supplying some within the next two weeks for salad and seasoning.

3. *Spring Onions* (6 acres)—This crop was sown during the first week of March. It is now up and appears quite promising.

4. *Parsnips* ($4\frac{1}{2}$ acres)—The first three acres sown four weeks ago have germinated and are now over-ground.

5. *Tillage*.—Since my last report 7 acres of ground have been tilled and prepared for crops; of this, 2 acres of swede turnips and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of carrots were sown. Five acres of spring cabbage has been hoed, grubbed and earthed.

6. *Kitchen Gardens and Recreation Grounds*.—Tomato house has been fumigated and planted. Fruit trees have been sprayed. Sowings of peas, beans, lettuce, turnips and parsley were made. The first of the winter lettuce will be fit for cutting next week. Hoeing and weeding flower beds and borders on hospital grounds and applying fertilizer to sports ground was carried out. I have completed the renovation of the grounds around the new divisions ($4\frac{1}{2}$ acres). I hope to complete the sowing of grass seed this week. I am at the moment renovating the grounds around Portrane House.

GRANGEGORMAN.

7. $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres have been ploughed and tilled in preparation for crops. Small sowings of lettuce, peas, beans, leeks and parsley have been made during the past month. Other work carried out was as follows: Renovating grounds and top sports grounds and bowling greens.

SANTRY GARDENS.

8. Tomato Houses have been fumigated and planted. Other work consisted of tying up fruit trees on walls, digging between fruit plantations, spraying fruit bushes, scuffling walks and borders.

ANDREW WOLOHAN,

Head Gardener.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE FARMS AND
GARDENS.

26th March, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane on Monday, 26th March, meeting Mr. Hayes at Turvey. All stock were out on grass. The production of milk has gone to 100 gallons per day at Turvey. There has been some growth and the grass is excellent, both here and at Ballymastouc. The rain, however, has kept the land soft. Some springing heifers were moved from Santry to-day. They look in top condition.

2. The farmyard was well cleared after the auction and again all stock were out on grass. The pig production is still at a very high standard, which reflects great credit on the staff. We were pleased to see that the building up of potato silage is nearly completed.

3. The gardens were visited in the afternoon and there are ample stocks of fresh vegetables on hands. The spring sowing is well advanced and all that is needed now is

favourable weather. We wish to thank both Mr. Hayes and Mr. Wolohan for the help given us during this inspection.

WM. J. COLMAN.
ANTHONY LALOR.
MARY C. ENNIS.
THOMAS P. O'REILLY.

Order—Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 24th May, 1956, date of next meeting of the Committee:—

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).
" E. Timmons.
Mr. William Chase.
Mr. P. T. O'Reilly.

PORTRANE FARM COSTS, 1954-55.

The report of the Agricultural Manager, dated 23rd January, 1956, on his examination of Portrane Farm Costs for the year 1954-55, was submitted, and consideration thereof was deferred to next meeting of the Committee.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

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*Report No. 261.**17th May, 1956.***Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.**

BOARD MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 17th day of May, 1956, Councillor William J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman), in the Chair. The following members were also present :—

City of Dublin Representatives :—Alderman Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D., Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Kevin Boland, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Bernard Conway, Gilbert Hughes, Dr. Christopher A. Macken, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, William Chase, Patrick O'Reilly, Thomas O'Reilly, Ronald Roulston and Thomas Stafford.

County Dublin Representatives :—Councillors, Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews, P.C. and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives :—Councillors C. M. Byrne, William Lawless and P. McCarthy.

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 259 of the 12th April, 1956) were confirmed and signed.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 30th April, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

			Males	Females	Total
On Hospital Register at					
31st March, 1956	...	...	1758	2045	3803
Admitted during month	...	...	51	66	117
			1809	2111	3920
	M.	F.	Total		
Discharged during					
month	...	51	44	95	
Died	do.	...	13	1	14
Escaped	do.	...	—	—	—
			64	45	109
Remaining on Hospital Register...			1745	2066	3811
Absent on trial and escape	...		16	20	36
Remaining in residence	...	...	1729	2046	3775

DISTRIBUTION.

In Grangegorman	...	...	771	1221	1992
In Portrane	...	...	958	825	1783
Total number resident as above	...	...	1729	2046	3775

CHARGEABILITY.

City of Dublin	...	...	...	2884
County Dublin	...	...	...	507
County Wicklow	...	...	...	326
Criminal Lunatic	...	...	...	39
Non-district patients	...	...	...	19
Total	...	...	...	3775

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. Thomas O'Reilly proposed and Councillor B. Conway seconded the adoption of Report No. 260 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 26th April, 1956.

Passed unanimously

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN.

19th April, 1956.

1. With Dr. Evelleen O'Brien, Miss Sharkey, Matron, and Miss McCormack, Deputy Matron, we visited the Female House, Grangegorman, on Thursday, April 19th.

We recommend the following matters be attended to :—

1. The re-decoration of Division No. 11.
2. The re-decoration of the main Female dining hall.
3. The provision of additional hand basins in Division No. 14 to facilitate patients making their toilet.
4. The provision of an office for the charge nurse in Division No. 27. Provision was made in last years estimates for this, but it has not been provided yet.

2. We were impressed by the manner with which dinner was served to the patients in the main dining hall and also in the smaller units attached to Divisions 24, 25 and 27.

A substantial appetising meal was provided for all and we did not receive any complaints.

3. We were very pleased with the general condition of the wards visited particularly No. 18 Division under the care of

Nurse Carolan. Despite the fact that it was the day for the weekly bathing of patients the wards presented a pleasing appearance. The patients in this Division, mainly aged women, we found were very appreciative of the solicitude shown them by the nursing staff.

4. We saw evidence of serious overcrowding in some of these Divisions and in the hospital department Divisions No. 22 and 22A, and we trust that, with the proposed transfer of patients to Portrane, some of the congestion will be removed. We suggest that a report be furnished to the Board outlining the steps taken to relieve overcrowding.

5. We visited the newly erected Stores and were impressed by its finish and lay out. We trust that steps will be taken to furnish it with suitable shelving and racks for the various commodities stored there. We consider that the system of heating provided is unlikely to prove efficient in a building with a terrazo floor, and for the comfort of the staff using it we think that some improvement should be made in this respect.

6. We also visited the Nurses' Home and noted its fresh, clean condition, reflecting generally the high standard of cleanliness in Grangegorman. We think that some consideration should be given to the utilisation of the disused tennis courts adjacent to the Home.

THOMAS O'REILLY.
GILBERT HUGHES.
EUGENE TIMMONS.

Order. Referred to Manager for report.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

19th April, 1956.

1. An inspection was carried out at Portrane Mental Hospital on Thursday, 19th April.

We inspected the kitchen and saw the preparations for dinner. Afterwards we saw both the male and female patients enjoying a well cooked appetising dinner. There were no complaints and everything seemed to be in order.

2. In the male and female hospitals all the patients were comfortable and most of them had eaten a good dinner.

3. The new heating system installed in No. 10 Female hospital is a great improvement.

4. While visiting No. 10 we looked into the new unit being prepared for children. It will certainly make a great difference to the children when they are transferred to their new premises.

5. The new unit opened on the 12th had about 20 patients transferred to it. Most of them were very old.

It seems to us that a much larger staff will be required to carry out the work in these new units.

We thank Doctors Harte and Hegarty for their kindness in showing us round.

WILLIAM COLMAN.
CATHERINE BYRNE.
WILLIAM LAWLESS.
PATRICK O'REILLY.

Order. Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorm and Portrane visiting Committee for the ensuing period to 21st June, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board:—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE:

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

" Mrs. M. Mulvey.

" Mrs. Kathleen Nix.

Mr. Patrick O'Reilly.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE:

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

" E. Timmons.

Mr. John Cahill.

Mr. William Chase.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

11th May, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on 8th instant 3,794 patients, viz. :—

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
In Grangegorman	...	758	1212	1970
In Portrane	...	981	843	1824
<i>Totals</i>	...	1739	2055	3794

as compared with:—

8th May, 1955	...	1751	2036	3787
8th May, 1954	...	1719	2003	3722
8th May 1953	...	1664	2041	3705
8th May, 1952	...	1613	1978	3591

this year's number being seven more than on the corresponding date last year, and 293 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. On the 1st April male patient J.F.C. (881), was staying with his brother on parole from Portrane. He was due back in the hospital at 8 p.m., but a short time before he left his brother's house and did not return. His brother brought the patient back to the hospital the following morning having found him outside the house at 6 a.m.

On the 15th April male patient F.F. (8988), who had liberty on the grounds at Portrane, failed to return at supper time. A search of the grounds in the locality did not reveal his whereabouts and he has not been located since.

The Minister for Health has been notified of these two escapes.

4. Female patient B.V. O'B. (9853), aged 18 years, was admitted on the 5th April as a temporary patient. On examination she was found to have bruises all over the body. The matter was reported to the Guards and the usual notification was sent to the Minister for Health.

5. *Accidents to Patients (Portrane).*—On the 1st April, female patient L.S. (35796), aged 51 years, while walking in the day room of No. 11 Division was attacked suddenly by another patient and knocked to the floor. She complained of pain in the region of the left hip and showed clinical signs of a fracture of the left femur.

On the morning of the 21st April female patient E.O.C. (8478), aged 77 years, was found to be unable to walk and she complained of pain in the left hip. During the previous night she had been restless and noisy, and had been put into

a room adjacent to the dormitory in No. 8 Division. She became more quiescent when removed from the other patients but was still restless. She was unable to give any account of what had happened and the night nurse in charge of No. 8 Division had not observed anything which would lead her to suspect that the patient had met with an injury. An examination showed a probable fracture of the upper third of the left femur. In view of the absence of any evidence that the patient received a fall or a knock, and having regard to her age and general condition, the Portrane Medical Superintendent is of opinion that the injury may have occurred as a result of restless movements while in bed.

The Portrane Medical Superintendent does not attribute blame to any member of the nursing staff in connection with the foregoing accidents, which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

No serious accidents to patients in Grangegorman were reported during the past month.

6. Accidents to Staff (Grangegorman).—Nurse C.T. has been off duty since the 28th April with a sprained ankle sustained when she slipped on the stairs of No. 14 Division.

Attendant H.M. was off duty from the 17th April to the 1st May with a sprained ankle sustained when she slipped on the stairs in No. 27 Division.

A number of other accidents to members of the nursing staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

7. Accidents to Staff (Portrane).—Nurse P.C. was off duty from the 3rd to the 10th April with an injury to his neck sustained while playing hurling in the recreation rounds.

Temporary Attendant T.L. was off duty from the 6th to the 16th April with an injury to his right ankle as the result of a fall when bringing a patient to the Visiting Hall.

Nurse M.A.B. was off duty from the 6th to the 9th April as the result of an injury caused by being knocked down and kicked by a patient.

Attendant E.J.S. was off duty from the 23rd March to the 4th April with an injury to the index finger of her right hand sustained outside the hospital.

R.K., Tailor, has been off duty since the 19th March as the result of a fall in his home.

J.M., farm labourer, injured his left leg in Portrane Farmyard on the 17th April, and he has been off duty since the 18th.

A number of other accidents to members of the staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

8. The Chief R.M.S. met the Chairman of the Wicklow County Council and the Wicklow County Manager at St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum, on the 1st instant with a view to advising as to the suitability of the accommodation available there for senile patients from Grangegorman and Portrane. He reports that it was agreed with the Wicklow County Council's representatives that a transfer of patients at this stage would not be feasible, and that a further examination of the problem on their part would be necessary.

9. A report submitted by Mr. Sean Muleahy, Consulting Engineer, in February, 1953, on the water services in the Female House at Grangegorman, recommended a scheme of improvement to be carried out in two stages, viz. :—

Stage I. Replacement of external mains and fittings and installation of additional storage tanks.

Stage II. New internal piping and fittings.

The scheme was approved in principle by the Minister for Health in June, 1953. The Contract for Stage I (which was

estimated to cost £20,050, inclusive of builder's work carried out by direct labour, fees and contingencies), was placed in June, 1954, and the work is virtually completed.

The Consulting Engineer has now submitted a detailed schedule of the piping and fittings to be replaced in Stage II. The cost is estimated at £3,000 plus fees, and the Consulting Engineer advises that the work is of such a nature that it can best be carried out by the Board's own staff over a period of two to three years. I have adopted his recommendation in principle, and I propose to submit it to the Minister for Health for approval.

10. The water pressure on the Male Side at Grangegorman has also been unsatisfactory for some time past resulting in a shortage of water on occasions. The Consulting Engineer has recently completed a survey of this installation and recommends the provision of additional storage tanks and booster pumps and the replacement of part of the external mains and internal pipework. The cost of this scheme, exclusive of fees, is estimated to be :—

<i>External Mains :</i>				£
Replacing corroded mains	...	...	...	350
Booster pumps	...	...	...	650
<i>Water storage and internal pipework :</i>				
Replacing internal pipework, where necessary	...	...	...	1,050
New storage tanks	...	...	...	6,000
Builder's work	...	...	...	2,000
				<hr/>
				10,050

I have adopted the Consulting Engineer's recommendations in principle and propose to submit them for the approval of the Minister for Health.

11. In the report of the Consulting Engineer about the scheme for the centralization of heating and hot water services on the Male Side at Grangegorman (which was submitted to the Board at its meeting on 20th October, 1955), it was mentioned that it would probably be necessary in the near future to replace one of the steam boilers in the Male Boilerhouse. When conveying the Minister's approval to acceptance of the tender for the centralization scheme, the Department of Health asked for a report from the Consulting Engineers on the condition of the steam boilers. The Consulting Engineer has now reported that the three boilers, which were built in 1896, are past their useful life; that the Board's Insurers have reduced the permitted working pressure to a level where they cannot provide the services necessary; and that the repairs required to have them passed by the Insurers for a useful working pressure would be uneconomic. The Consulting Engineer accordingly recommends that two of the Lancashire Boilers be replaced now and the third when the centralization scheme is completed. The estimated cost of the three new boilers, including erection, builder's work and oil burners is £16,880.

I have adopted the Consulting Engineer's recommendation in principle and I propose to submit it for the Minister's approval.

12. It will be necessary to raise a loan to meet the cost of providing equipment, furniture, hardware, clothing and bedding for the reconstructed temporary building (formerly No. 4 Division) at Grangegorman, the two new units and the new Children's Division at Portrane. Part of the cost has been met temporarily out of revenue as has also the cost of providing furniture and fittings for the new Assistant Medical Officer's Residence (No. 217 North Circular Road), and a new

Accounting Machine for the Accountant's Office. I recommend the borrowing for these purposes of a sum of £10,500 made up as follows :—

Furniture, etc. :—	£
Temporary Buildings, Grangegorman	2,020
Two new units, Portrane ...	5,253
Children's Division, Portrane ...	812
No. 217 North Circular Road ...	782
New Accounting Machine ...	1,319
Miscellaneous and contingencies ...	314
	<hr/> 10,500

The Board's Treasurer, the Munster and Leinster Bank, Ltd., has agreed to advance that sum, subject to the submission of a letter of sanction from the Minister for Local Government. The loan would be repayable over a period of ten years by equal half-yearly instalments with interest on outstanding balances at the rate charged by the Irish Banks from time to time for such loans but not below 4% per annum. The present rate of interest is 4½% per annum.

13. On the recommendation of the Board's Consulting Engineer I have accepted a quotation of £140 from the Electricity Supply Board for supplying and fitting 15 outside lights on the grounds of Portrane to replace the outside lighting formerly supplied from the hospital power station. I have also accepted an offer of the Electricity Supply Board to light and maintain these lamps in operation from dusk to midnight at an annual inclusive charge of £50.

14. Offers were invited recently by public advertisement for a quantity of D.C. electric motors and switch gear, etc., which have become obsolete on the change over of the electricity supply at Portrane to direct current. Five tenders

were received, and after consultation with the Chief Engineer, Portrane, I have accepted the highest offer, that of Hendron Bros. Ltd., in the sum of £850.

15. I have accepted the following tenders for the supply of steel lockers :—

P. J. Brown & Sons, Ltd., for 72 clothes lockers at £5 4s. 2d. each (£375 in all) required for the reconstructed temporary building at Grangegorman (formerly No. 4 Division).

P. J. Brown & Sons, Ltd., for 16 sets of lockers, comprising 15 compartments each, for a total of £400, required for the two new units at Portrane.

Castlemines General Sheet Metal Works for the supply of two sets of lockers each comprising 10 compartments, for a total of £47, required for the New Children's Division at Portrane.

The tenders accepted were the lowest received in each case.

16. On the recommendation of the Board's Consulting Engineer and with the approval of the Minister for Health, I have accepted the following tenders for the new Food Delivery Van for Portrane, viz. :—

J Caldwell, Dublin Road, Lucan, for a Morris or Austin van chassis and cab, in the sum of £675.

Messrs Doody & Murphy, 114 Cork Street, for the van body, in the sum of £620.

John Dooley, Rathgar, for 100 Birmabright food containers, in the sum of £295.

being the lowest tenders received in each case.

17. Tenders were recently invited by public advertisement for various fuels, and on the recommendation of the Clerk of Works, Grangegorman, and the Chief Engineer, Portrane,

for their respective requirements, I have accepted the following as offering the best value :—

P. DONNELLY & SONS, LTD.

150 tons Large Welsh Steam Coal for Grangegorman
@ £8 12s. 6d. per ton.

50 tons Scotch steam coal for Portrane, @ £7 6s. 9d.
per ton.

50 tons First Grade house coal for Portrane, @ £8 1s. 2d.
per ton.

17 tons Ballingarry or Welsh Anthracite Nuts for
Portrane at £11 14s. 0d. per ton.

all for delivery before the 31st May.

M. DOHERTY & Co. LTD.

100 tons First Grade House Coal for Grangegorman,
at £8 1s. 6d. per ton.

200 tons First Grade English Steam coal for Grange-
gorman @ £7 15s. 6d. a ton.

100 tons Scotch steam coal for Portrane, @ £7 7s. 0d.
per ton.

18 tons Ballingarry or Welsh Anthracite Nuts for
Portrane @ £11 14s. 0d. per ton.

all for delivery before the 31st May.

ALLIANCE & DUBLIN CONSUMERS GAS CO.

100 tons Large Screened Gas Coke for Grangegorman,
and 50 tons for Portrane @ £8 10s. 0d. per ton.

McHENRY BROS. LTD.

For Bord na Mona's turf briquettes as required and ordered
during the period ending 30th September, 1956 :—

£4 9s. 0d. per ton delivered Grangegorman.

£4 12s. 6d. per ton delivered Portrane.

18. I have accepted also the following tenders, being the lowest received in each case, for the supply of nurses' uniform clothing during the period ending 31st March, 1957:—

McBIRNEY & CO. LTD.

Price, April, 1956.

Male Nurses, Uniform	
Cape @ 12s. 6d. each.	@ 10s. 11d. each.
Male Nurses' shirts ... @ 14s. 3d. each.	

JOHN IRELAND & SON, LTD.

Head Male Nurses' Uniform caps ... @ £1 2s. 6d. each.	
Deputy Head Male Nurses' uniform caps ... @ 10s. 3d. each.	

TODD BURNS & CO. LTD.

Price, April, 1955.

Male Nurses' uniforms ... @ £9 0s. 3d. each.	@ £8 11s. 6d. each.
Nurses' aprons,	
" W. size @ 11s. 3d. each.	@ 11s. 6d. each.
" O. size @ 12s. 6d. each.	@ 12s. 6d. each.
Nurses' belts ... @ £2 3s. 6d. dozen.	@ £2 1s. 6d. dozen.
Nurses' caps ... @ £1 1s. 6d. dozen.	@ 10s. 3d. dozen.
Nurses' collars ... @ £1 2s. 6d. dozen.	@ £1 1s. 3d. dozen.
Nurses' cuffs ... @ £1 7s. 6d. do. pairs.	@ £1 5s. 11d. doz. pairs.

CALLANAN & CO. LTD.

Head & Deputy Head Male Nurses' Uniforms ... @ £9 10s. 6d. each.	@ £9 7s. 3d. each.
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ARNOTT & CO. LTD.

Nurses' belts ... @ £2 10s. 6d. dozen.	@ £2 1s. 6d. dozen.
Male Nurses' Ties ... @ £1 8s. 6d. dozen.	@ £1 2s. 6d. dozen.

D. KELLEY, LTD.

Nurses' Uniform dresses ... @ £1 5s. 11d. each.	@ £1 6s. 6d. each.
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19. I have received an application from the Workers' Union of Ireland for an increase in the rates paid to Shoe-

makers employed by the Board based on a recent adjustment in the pay of workers in shoe factories. It is difficult to relate the rates paid to the Board's male shoemakers to those in operation in the shoe manufacturing trade and I propose, subject to the consent of the Board and the approval of the Minister for Health, to grant these men the recent increase applied to local officers generally, viz.:—10 per cent. on the first £300 per annum, and $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ on the balance of annual remuneration, with effect from 1st November, 1955. The rates paid at present are:—Foremen Shoemakers—£9 11s. 6d. a week; Shoemakers—£7 17s. 9d., and the proposed increases would be 16s. 6d. a week for the former category, 14s. 3d. a week for the latter, approximately.

The Female Boot Machinist at Grangeegorman is paid £4 14s. 0d. a week which was the rate fixed for adult female operatives in shoe factories in October, 1952. This rate has been increased to £5 6s. 0d. a week from 18th February, 1956, and I propose to adjust the wage of the Boot Machinist accordingly, subject to the consent of the Board.

20. On 15th March last the Board agreed to a proposal that the two hall porters at Portrane (one of whom had died and the other retired), should be replaced by two male mental nurses. On submission of this proposal to the Department of Health I was informed that the Minister was not satisfied that the duties attaching to these posts would justify the assignment of nursing officers to them.

I have discussed the matter again with the Portrane Medical Superintendent and he is agreeable to the appointment of lay Hall Porters provided suitable candidates can be recruited.

The former appointed Hall Porters were paid a weekly wage and received emoluments in kind similar to those enjoyed by male nurses. In accordance with established policy, it is desirable to replace this basis of remuneration

by an inclusive scale and I propose, subject to the consent of the Board and the approval of the Minister, to apply the following scale to the two new Hall Porters who are to be appointed :—

£325 x £5—£375 plus 1952 and 1955 temporary bonus, less deductions for goods and services provided by the Board on the same scale as for male nurses.

Including temporary bonus, the minimum of the proposed scale is £388 11s. 6d. per annum, and the maximum is £443 3s. 2d. per annum.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO BOARD.

17th May, 1956.

21. Since 10th ultimo 72 male and 79 female patients were admitted, total 151. One hundred and fifty of these were chargeable patients, of whom 66 were temporary, 52 were voluntary, and 32 were Persons of Unsound Mind. One Person of Unsound Mind was also admitted as a Private Patient.

22. The draft working drawings for the reconstruction of the second block of temporary buildings at Grangegorman (formerly No. 2 Division), which were submitted to the Department of Health in March last have been the subject of discussion with the Department's Architectural Advisers, and the Architect has prepared revised drawings which it is expected will be approved formally at an early date.

In July last the Board was informed by the Department of Health that the question of a grant from the Hospitals Trust Fund towards the cost of this work would be considered when

an estimate of cost of an approved scheme was available. The Architect's approximate estimate of the inclusive cost of the scheme is £73,500, and I propose to resubmit now the Board's application for a grant.

T. O'BROIN.

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:—

Par. 8.—Noted.

Par. 9.—Noted.

Par. 10.—Noted.

Par. 11.—Noted.

Par. 12.—Proposed by Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Cahill "That application be made to the Minister for Local Government for sanction to the borrowing of £10,500 (Ten Thousand Five Hundred Pounds), for the purpose of defraying the cost of providing sundry furniture and equipment for Grangegorman and Portrane Mental Hospitals as described in Paragraph 12 of the Manager's Report of 11th May, 1956 ;

The said sum of £10,500 to be borrowed from the Munster and Leinster Bank, Ltd., on the security of the rates leviable by and the Borough and County Funds of the Corporation of Dublin and the County Councils of Dublin and Wicklow, repayable in equal half-yearly instalments over a period of ten years, with interest on outstanding balances at the rate charged by the Irish Banks from time to time for such loans, subject to a minimum of 4 per cent. per annum." Passed unanimously.

Par. 13.—Referred to Manager for consideration of the question of extending the lighting hours.

Par. 19.—Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Nix, seconded by Councillor B. Conway "That the Board consents to the increases proposed by the Manager in the remuneration of Foremen Shoemakers, Shoemakers and Boot Machinist." Passed unanimously.

Par. 20.—Proposed by Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor B. Conway "That the Board consents to the new inclusive scale of remuneration for Hall Porters at Portrane which the Manager proposes to submit for the approval of the Minister for Health." *Passed unanimously.*

Par. 22.—Noted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

1. Letter dated 11th April from the Clerk to the Council, Corporation of Dublin, stating that the Dublin City Council at a Quarterly Meeting held on 9th April appointed Councillor Thomas Stafford, P.C., 60 North Strand Road, Dublin, to represent the Corporation on the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board in succession to Councillor Patrick D. Finnegan, A.A.I.A., A.I.I.S., disqualified for non-attendance. *Noted.*

Letter dated 18th April from the Clerk to the Council, Corporation of Dublin, stating that Councillor Noel T. Lemass, 5 Greenmount Road, Terenure, a Corporation representative on the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board, by letter dated 5th March, tendered his resignation therefrom. At the adjourned Quarterly Meeting held on 16th April, the Dublin City Council accepted Councillor Lemass's resignation and appointed Councillor Daniel Joseph Morris, 30 Leinster Avenue, North Strand, Dublin, to fill the vacancy. *Noted.*

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

P. J. AIRD,
Acting Chief R.M.S.

*Report No. 262.**24th May, 1956.*

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 24th day of May, 1956, Councillor William J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman), in the Chair. Also present :—Councillors James Andrews, C. M. Byrne, Gilbert Hughes, William Lawless, Eugene Timmons, Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Patrick T. O'Reilly, Thomas P. O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.

24th May, 1956.

1. Since my last report of 26th ultimo, milk production has been well maintained and it was possible to give full supplies, with some surplus, to both hospitals. At the moment Grangegorman is getting 288 gallons and Portrane from 277 to 291 gallons daily.

The present average daily yield from 236 cows is 2.5 gallons.

The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of last month:—

		<i>This Month</i>	<i>Last Month</i>
Over 5 gallons	...	5	3
4—5	...	24	21
3—4	...	57	54
2—3	...	68	87
1—2	...	56	59
Under 1 gallon	...	26	22
		236	246

2. The following is a table of (a) purchases, (b) sales of livestock, during the month of April:—

	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Av. per Beast</i>
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
(a) 40 sheep	411 10 0	10 5 9

(b) Seventeen calves were sold for the following prices:—

Two at £13, 2 at £12, 3 at £10, 5 at £9 10s. 0d., 1 for £7, and 4 at £5; total £154 10s. 0d.

One bonham was sold for £6. Thirty store pigs were transferred to Grangegorman, 6 at £8, 18 at £7 10s. 0d., and 6 at £7 each; total, £225 0s. 0d. Twenty store pigs were sold to Crookling Sanatorium at £8 each; total, £160 0s. 0d. One fat sow was sold in the Dublin Market by T. McKeogh for £18 10s. 3d. nett.

3. *Mastitis*.—The position with regard to mastitis may be considered very satisfactory. Only three cases of clinical mastitis occurred in Ballymastone during the month, all of which responded to the usual treatment.

4. *Grass*.—There is a plentiful supply of grass on all farms which is mainly due to the recent application of nitrogenous fertilisers, this was applied at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. per statute acre. A fair acreage has been reserved on Portrane and Turvey Farms for silage.

A number of grass fields have been chain-harrowed and loose stones removed in preparation for silage and hay making.

5. *Crops*.—The planting of the potato crop was completed on 19th instant making the total acreage under potatoes—97 acres.

The heavy frost on the night of 18th instant has done serious damage to $9\frac{1}{2}$ acres of first earlies. At the moment it is not possible to say what the full effect of this damage may be. Twenty-two acres are almost ready for moulding and have been grubbed once in preparation for same.

All corn crops are making satisfactory growth with the exception of a field of barley at Turvey which was attacked by leather-jacket grub. This field has been treated with Paris Green and rolled.

About 50 acres of corn crops which contain a high proportion of annual weeds are at present being sprayed with a weed killer.

6. *Santry*.—Grass on this farm has made very satisfactory growth, and 56 acres has recently received a dressing of $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of sulphate of ammonia per statute acre.

A batch of 48 calves was transferred from Ballymastone to Santry on 16th instant, leaving the present stock at Santry comprising 1 horse, 43 two-year-old heifers, 78 one-year-old heifers, 110 calves and 1 bull: total, 233.

7. With reference to the suggestion made by the members who inspected the Farm in March that an estimate be sought

for the erection of a milking parlour at Portrane, I wish to report that I have gone carefully into this matter which was previously considered in 1946 and 1947, when it was decided not to proceed on the grounds of cost. The cost then was estimated at £4,350, including the installation of sterilizing and cooling equipment. Since then a sterilizing unit and a cooling plant have been installed so that it would not be necessary to include these in the cost of a new milking system. I have now obtained an estimate which I am submitting from Messrs. Gascoignes, Ltd., for the installation of an 8-point auto-recorder for the sum of £900, and they estimate that a building for same measuring 56' x 18' would cost £1,500. It would be necessary to erect a further building with four compartments to house a boiler, sterilizing equipment, dairy and storage room. This building, together with a holding pen and the fencing off the paddocks, would in my estimation cost at least a further £2,500 bringing the total cost to £4,900.

It would take additional labour including two men per day to work this system which, with relief and annual holidays, would cost almost £1,000 per annum. Assuming the capital was raised by loan over a period of 20 years, the annual outlay including additional labour costs, would add a further 2d. per gallon to the cost of producing milk. Considering the already high cost of milk it cannot stand any extra cost, and as no increase in production would follow the alteration, I recommend that for the present, the suggestion be abandoned although I agree that the suggested system is an ideal one for milk production and I am opposing solely on the grounds of cost.

3. Messrs. Gascoignes, Ltd., introduced an electronic milking system to this country last year which apparently is giving good results. Members of the Agricultural Committee have discussed the possibility of converting the plant

at Portrane by adopting Gascoignes' system, a suggestion with which I agree. It will have the effect of reducing the existing number of milking units from 8 to 6 which it is hoped can be manipulated by two operators as against three at present; it will also speed up the milking time of individual cows. I had an interview with representatives of Messrs. Gascoignes and I have been furnished with an estimate of the cost of the conversion which I submit. The figure for doing the two main sheds including labour is £152 11s. 6d., and if the system is extended to a third shed it would take a further £28 14s. 0d.—total for all sheds, £181 5s. 6d.

The suppliers have also pointed out to me that increased yields have followed the conversion, but apart from that, the reduction in labour costs would make the conversion worth while. A most important point also is the standardisation of pulsation rate. At present the pulsation rate varies from bucket to bucket, a feature which is very undesirable and is not conducive to good milking. I recommend that this conversion be carried out and that Messrs. Gascoignes be instructed to proceed with the work along the lines set out in their quotation and for the price quoted. I consider the cost reasonable.

JAMES HAYES,

Agricultural Manager.

Orders made thereon :—

Par. 1 to 7.—Noted.

Par. 8.—Approved unanimously on the motion of Councillor W. Lawless, seconded by Councillor Gilbert Hughes.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER, PORTRANE.

24th May, 1956.

1. *Crops in season at the moment.*—12 acres cabbage, 1½ acres onions, 1 acre rhubarb, lettuce, parsley, thyme and sage.

Young crops.—6 acres onions, 4½ acres parsnips, 1 acre carrots, and ½ acre seed beds consisting of cauliflower, cabbage, sprouts and leeks. The onion and parsnip crop are not quite as forward as at this time last year.

Tillage and Sowings.—6 acres have been ploughed and tilled; of this, 2½ acres have been manured in readiness for planting summer cabbage.

2. *Kitchen gardens and Recreation Grounds.*—Fruit trees have received their second pre-blossom spray. Sowings of peas, beans, lettuce, parsley and beet were made. The work of pricking out flowering annuals and potting up chrysanthemums into 10" pots is in progress at the moment. The 4½ acres of grass-seed sown around the new units is not doing well and requires rain badly. All permanent recreation grounds and lawns are looking well.

GRANGEGORMAN.

3. Three acres of ground have been tilled and sown with the following crops, viz.:—beans, peas, parsley, lettuce and turnips. Other work carried out consisted of sowing and pricking out flowering annuals and general care of recreation grounds and shrubberies.

ANDREW WOLOHAN,
Head Gardener.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE FARMS.

10th May, 1956.

1. With Mr. Hayes, Agriculture Manager, we visited Santry Court and Portrane on Thursday, May 10th.

At Santry we saw herds of stock, mainly Friesians, out on pasture and all appeared to be thriving and in good condition. Similarly at Turvey and Ballymastone the stock, which included 28 in-calf heifers, looked well. We were pleased to note the forward condition of the calves out on pasture. At Turvey where there are 42 acres under winter wheat the crop appeared to be coming on well as was the grass crop earmarked for silage.

2. At the farmyard the cows were contentedly waiting to be milked, and we saw many fine animals which are contributing to an increasing milk yield reflecting the good results of the introduction of Friesians. We were sorry to learn that pig production had had a set-back recently—litters have not been as large as usual but this we believe is only temporary.

3. The gardens which we later visited with Mr. Wolohan looked very well, and with improved weather conditions ample supplies of fruit and vegetables seems assured. We observed a leakage from a hot pipe in one of the tomato houses caused apparently by a faulty pipe joint and we trust that it has since been repaired.

We wish to thank Mr. Hayes and Mr. Wolohan for their co-operation during our visit.

WILLIAM J. COLMAN.
PATRICK O'REILLY.
WILLIAM CHASE.
EUGENE TIMMONS.

Order.—Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 28th June, 1956, date of next meeting of the Committee :—

Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman).

„ William Lawless.

Mr. Thomas O'Reilly.

Mr. John Smithers.

PORTRANE FARM COSTS, 1954-55.

The report of the Agricultural Manager dated 23rd January, 1956, on his examination of Portrane Farm Costs for the year 1954-55 was adopted unanimously on the proposal of Councillor William Lawless, seconded by Councillor Gilbert Hughes.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

MALCONR, DUBLIN.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

EXAMINATION OF FARM COSTS YEAR 1954/55

1. This report is based on a detailed costings examination of all operations on the Board's farms for the year ending 31st March, 1955. Comparative production costs for the year 1953/4 are also included in the Appendix. The year under review has been an extraordinary one throughout. All aspects of farm work were hampered and disrupted by wretched weather conditions and the greatest difficulties were encountered in the endeavour to save the various crops and in maintaining cattle on a limited supply of fodder during the winter. In spite of these difficulties I am pleased to say that the corn crops were saved without loss and, while a portion of the potatoes were lost through flooding and later frost, it was possible to save the greater portion of that crop. Full milk supplies for the hospitals were available almost throughout the year, and while fodder was both scarce and expensive, strict rationing enabled purchases to be kept at a minimum.

Production costs for this year vary a good deal and for many reasons hardly bear comparison with those of previous years. Artificial manures used during the year were purchased at more favourable prices than in 1953, and the prices of the principal items of feeding stuffs showed an upward trend. The general wage rate increased further by 4/- per week,

though 2/6 of this increase was paid only recently in retrospect. For the purpose of the appended costs a basic rate for adults of £5 4s. 0d. per week was used and this does not include the 2/6 mentioned. The main effect of this additional increase which cost about £280 for the year would be to increase the cost of potatoes by about 10/- per acre, wheat by about 2/6 per acre, and milk by 1/4d. per gallon. A feature of Irish farming notable during the year was the steep increase in cattle prices which reached an all-time high record. It will be seen later in this report how this change affected costs on the Board's farms, in particular the cost of milk production. During the year no notable change in the system of farming as heretofore practised was deemed necessary. Reclamation and liming of land continued as time and labour permitted. The bulk of the reclamation programme has now been completed and future work in this connection will be more or less confined to filling in ditches and joining up fields of small areas.

2. CROP PRODUCTION.

(a) WHEAT.

The acreage of wheat grown was increased by 5 to 118. The average yield per acre was down from 12.61 to 11.25 barrels. In view of the season and the conditions under which the crops was harvested, I consider this a satisfactory yield. The cost of production per acre was also down. This was brought about by the use of a combine harvester and a combined seed and fertiliser drill. The use of these machines resulted in a big economy in production costs amounting to almost 15 per acre, and, as was expected, operational costs were

reduced by over 30%. There was also a saving in manures applied and residues from previous crops; other costs went up slightly. Despite the reduction in production costs the margin of profit per acre declined. This decline is not alone due to the lesser yield but also to the poor millable quality of the grain which was responsible for an average reduction in price of 12/- per barrel. The average moisture content and bushel weight at the mill were 25.7% and 54 lbs. respectively, therefore the average price obtained in accordance with the Statutory Wheat Order for that year would be 73/- per barrel, as against 85/- per barrel top price. The profit margin of £22 10s. 11d. per acre is regarded as satisfactory under the circumstances.

I would like to record that if it were not for the combine, harvesting of the crops would have been a good deal more difficult, and indeed, portion of the crop might have been lost.

(b) POTATOES.

The area under potatoes decreased from 95½ acres in 1953 to 92. The cost of production increased from £76 0s. 0d. to £90 1s. 7d. per acre. An analysis of costs shows that increases occurred under all headings, but that the greatest increase occurred under the heading of working operations, the conditions under which the main crop was lifted being mainly responsible for this increase. Lifting extended over a period of six months, i.e., from October to early April. Seed costs are higher because 63 tons of purchased seed were used as compared with 28 tons the previous year. The increase in the manure costs was due to a greater use of farmyard manure

than previously; farmyard manure was available for the entire crop. Other costs also show an increase amounting to £2 8s. 0d. per acre. Spraying was carried out extensively to protect against blight during the very damp season, and the difficult lifting conditions were in a way responsible for the high cost of the machinery upkeep.

The yield per acre worked out at an average of 7.76 tons, a decline of 1.24 tons. This decline is not surprising in view of the season and in view of the late start at planting. Also, as pointed out, a portion of the crop was lost through flooding and frost. The area affected was about 24 acres, and it is estimated that more than half the produce of this area was lost. A total of 22 acres was put in with the mechanical planter. This had the effect of speeding up the work and reducing labour, and my intentions are to utilise the planter as much as possible in future in getting in the maincrop. It should be possible to get over 40 acres of the crop planted by this method.

Despite all the disadvantages, the nett profit per acre is estimated at £35 11s. 11d., which is a very satisfactory return. Prices were good throughout the year and reached a high level during the Winter and early Spring.

(c) BARLEY.

Seventeen statute acres of barley were grown for feeding purposes and yielded an average of 13.5 barrels per acre as compared with 17.3 barrels the previous year. Lodging through excessive rain impaired the yield and made harvesting very difficult. As in the case of wheat, the advantages of

the new machinery are evident, though in this case the crop was cut with the binder but was threshed with the stationary combine in the field.

Figures have shown that this is a less profitable grain crop than wheat, but nevertheless when a good yield is obtained, barley can be a cheap constituent in the feeding of cattle and pigs, though the quantity which can be scientifically incorporated in a milk-producing compound is limited.

(d) FODDER BEET.

The cost of growing fodder beet per acre is almost as high as in the previous year, but the results obtained are most disappointing as the yield from this year's crop was very poor. The actual cost per ton, root equivalent, is calculated at £6 19s. 3d. as compared with £3 19s. 8d. in 1953. Costs are down by about £2 per acre but the yield, root equivalent, is only 13.5 tons as against 23.3 previously. This crop, though sown earlier than heretofore, was backward almost from the beginning, and a liberal dressing of nitrogen during the year failed to stimulate growth sufficiently to give a full crop.

In last year's report I pointed out the desirability of eliminating this crop from the rotation, and this year's results bear out my previous views. I have gained considerable experience of this crop since it was first recommended in 1950, and I am now satisfied that there are very few fields on the farm which suit the crop and which suit the method of growing it.

(e) OATS.

In compliance with the wishes of some members of the Board to produce a quantity of feeding oats, fourteen statute acres were grown at Santry Court. The cost of growing the crop exclusive of the expense in having the grain dried, compares with the cost of growing other cereals, but the yield per acre at 8.71 barrels is disappointing. The cost per barrel after making due allowance for the straw produced worked out at 50/5 as compared with 43/2, being the average price paid for the balance of our requirements during that same year.

Two factors contributed to the partial failure of the crop, namely, an attack of leatherjackets after braiding and an attack of mildew just before ripening. I have found that this crop is not generally suited to the type of soil on the farms, and I do not recommend the continued growing of it.

(f) SILAGE.

Silage production was estimated at 900 tons, a decline in production of 140 tons on the previous year. Weather conditions slowed up this work to such an extent that grass became too strong and was only suitable for hay-making. Frequent stoppages during the course of ensiling retarded production and resulted in a dearer product than in 1953. The comparative costs per ton were £2 6s. 7d. in 1953, and £2 17s. 5d. for the year under review. Increases occurred under all headings but mainly under operational costs and overheads. The machinery was not capable of dealing with

the grass in such an advanced stage of growth, and frequent breakages occurred causing general delay and increased repair costs.

The quantity of silage made was not nearly sufficient to meet requirements, but careful rationing enabled a minimum amount to be fed to practically all the stock almost to the end of the season. As pointed out in previous reports, maximum production of this product is very essential towards economy in milk production, but there are many factors which hamper full production.

(g) HAY.

The quantity of hay saved was estimated at 327 tons or 23 tons less than the previous year's production. Despite the bad season, most of the crops was of fairly good quality. Costs are down by about 17/- per ton under all headings, but the greatest reductions took place under the headings of manures and overheads. This was brought about by reason of the fact that almost a similar quantity was produced from a much lesser area than in 1953. Having anticipated a fodder shortage and a long winter, an effort was made to extend production by taking a second cut from the meadows late in the season, but bad weather hampered this effort and it met with little success. Supplies fell short of requirements and it was necessary to purchase a quantity to maintain the stock until grass became available. 45 tons were purchased locally and in the Dublin Market at an average cost of £12 15s. 9d. per ton.

(A) GRAZING.

The area grazed was estimated at 455 acres, an increase of 29 over the 1953 figure. Despite the increase it was not possible to make the same use of the pastures as in other seasons. The grazing season was short; it began with a late Spring and ended earlier than usual. With excessive rain the ground began to cut up badly so that in order to prevent permanent harm to established pastures and to the milking cows—many of them suffered from lameness—housing and winter feeding commenced in early October. Prior to that date the quality of the grass had deteriorated, a fact which was noticeable in the decline in milk-production, and heavy milking cows had to be hand fed early in the season. The cost of grazing per acre has increased by about 9/6 to £12 1s. 0d. The main portion of this increase, which is attributed to the bad season, occurred under the heading of labour. Manures were applied in early Spring under most adverse conditions, and the control of weeds was almost a whole-time job during the grazing season.

3. MEAT SUPPLY.**(a) BULLOCK BEEF.**

The loss on bullock beef continues, and this year has increased by almost £2 per head. The cause of the continuous loss is as set out in previous reports, but the heavier loss this year results from the higher price paid for fat cattle, especially towards the end of the year when prices soared. It is estimated that the average increase in price for the year would be approximately 7/6 per cwt. liveweight and the

average increase in credit allowed for beef was 2/4 per cwt. Prices were highest during the period December to March, and as compared with the same period last year, purchases cost an average of £1 per cwt. liveweight more.

(b) SHEEP.

The profit on sheep has declined from 13/5 to 9/6 per head. On an average for the year, sheep cost about 2/- per head less than in 1953, but a decrease of 1½d. per lb. in the credit allowed for mutton more than offset this difference and resulted in the decrease in profits.

The loss on bullock beef for the year came to £1,083 14s. 2d., and the profit on sheep was £227 14s. 9d., making a nett loss of £855 19s. 5d. on the combined undertaking.

4. PIG PRODUCTION

A general decline in pig prices took place during the year. I estimate that the decline in the prices for fat pigs was, on an average for the year, in the region of 30/- per cwt. dead-weight as compared with the previous year. The prices for stores and bonhams were also affected, but the demand for these was fairly satisfactory during the year. The number of bonhams sold increased from 235 to 295, but the number of stores required at Grangegorma piggeries was only 390 or 77 less than the previous year's requirements. The policy of producing stores and bonhams continues, and the bulk of the fat pigs slaughtered for Portrane had to be purchased. Bonhams born increased further from 748 to 839, and as can be seen from the ensuing table there was a general improvement in the standard of the breeding herd :—

	1954/5	1953/4
Number of litters recorded ...	55	76
Average size of litters at birth ...	10.96	9.84
Average size of litters at 21 days ...	10.47	9.21
Average weight of bonhams at 21 days	10.82 lbs.	10.05 lbs.
Average size of litters at 8 weeks ...	10.22	9.20
Average weight of bonhams at 8 weeks	26.17 lbs.	24.40 lbs.

Two new boars purchased during the year brought about a good improvement so that the deterioration which set in last year appears to have been arrested. The use of infra-red lamps on newly-born litters continues with the same good results as previously experienced.

The profit on pig production for the year shows a decrease of just over £200. In view of the collapse in prices, this decline is not surprising. The activity for the year shows a nett profit of £2,482 2s. 0d., a figure which I regard as very satisfactory.

5. MILK PRODUCTION.

Milk production costs have decreased by 3.47d. to 30.73d. per gallon, the lowest production cost since 1950. This decrease occurred under the headings of herd replacements and veterinary expenses. The other items of cost, namely, food, labour and miscellaneous expenditure, have increased since last year. Production fell by 1,752 gallons, but this fall was insignificant and had little bearing on the ultimate cost per gallon. On the whole, supplies to the hospital were well maintained, and cows milked fairly well despite the bad conditions prevailing. The average number of cows in the herd was almost the same as the previous year as was the number of replacements required.

(a) Food.

The main items of food used during the winter, *i.e.*, sugar pulp and cotton-seed meal increased in price. The former was very scarce at times and was replaced in the compound by bran and pollard, both expensive commodities. Silage and fodder beet were also more expensive than previously, and the advantages of cheap home-produced hay were almost offset by the high cost of a quantity which had to be purchased towards the end of the season. As explained, grass supplies fell away badly in Autumn, and early Spring grazing was non-existent so that there was a long Winter period of intensive feeding. Very careful rationing of both fodder and meals was resorted to in an effort to make supplies last throughout the whole season. The fodder supply however did not last, and it became necessary to buy hay and to feed steeped sugar pulp to replace silage and roots. The fact that this item of cost went up is not alarming under the circumstances, and it is the result of careful feeding that the increase amounted to only .8d. per gallon.

(b) LABOUR, VETERINARY AND MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Labour and miscellaneous expenses between them increased by .75d. per gallon. This increase can also be attributed to the long housing period. Increased production is the only answer to any rise in these expenses which are often due to circumstances not within my control.

An adjustment in fees paid to the Board's Veterinary Surgeon and a free test under the Department's Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme brought about a reduction of .3d. per

gallon in veterinary costs. Under the scheme the Department has undertaken to carry out one test each year free of charge. The first of these took place in November of the year under review, and the saving to the Board amounted to £144.

(c) HERD REPLACEMENTS.

This aspect of milk-production is no more satisfactory than in the previous year. The number of cows purchased was almost as great as in 1953, and the number of home-bred heifers which entered the herd only increased by five. Under ordinary circumstances, herd replacements should be a liability to the farm, but this year, as the account reveals, replacements appear to have been made up with profit. This was brought about by the increased value of the herd at the end of the year as a result of the general rise in cattle prices and as a result of the increased number of Friesian cattle in the herd at that time—Friesians are valued on a higher plane than others. The overall increase in valuation more than offset the loss which would normally be incurred in making such a high number of replacements. Apart from this change, the position is about the same as last year; the average strength of the herd and the average yield per cow showed little change, likewise the average heifer yield showed little improvement. 77 heifers entered the herd during the year. Two of these gave no lactation and the average yield for the remainder was 302 gallons as compared with 300 gallons in 1953. The proportion of Friesians among the homebreds was higher, and though this brought about little improvement in the average yield, the differential between Friesian yields and others justifies continuing breeding from top class Friesian bulls. Already excellent heifers of this breed have

been bred, some of them have reached the 1,000 gallon class. During the year circumstances necessitated terminating our own artificial insemination scheme and availing of the scheme administered through the Dublin District Milk Board by the Department of Agriculture. This alteration gives the advantages of the services of high-class Friesian bulls maintained at the Department's centre and in time should give more beneficial results than would be obtained by continuing our own station, and at a lesser cost.

The quality of the market cow is steadily deteriorating, and the average yield of 418 gallons obtained from this year's cows is lower than in 1953. The number purchased was 144 or 4 less than the previous year and cost an average of £64 16s. 4d. per head. Fortunately the bulk of the purchases were made during the cheap period of the year, and consequently the average price is somewhat lower. Friesians purchased numbered 35. These averaged 524 gallons or 140 gallons more than the shorthorns; the latter were very disappointing. As indicated by the following table purchased cows are deteriorating from year to year, and it appears that as time goes on, it would be unwise to persist in buying animals of such a low standard. The second part of the table shows at least that there is some improvement in heifer yields from year to year. The heifers are in every way superior to the purchased cow, and if the progress of the last few years is maintained, it may be a worthwhile policy to buy only proven stock of the Friesian breed, and to meet temporary shortages by buying milk, thereby eliminating the uneconomic type of beast which appears to be getting more numerous on the market each year.

Table showing the first year average yields of purchased cows and homebred heifers during the past four years and the number of each category slaughtered during and immediately after the first lactation, having been considered unsuitable for retention in the breeding herd:—

Purchased Cows.

		Number	Average yield	Number slaughtered	Average yield
1951	...	124	449	63	308
1952	...	184	397	113	292
1953	...	148	434	94	327
1954	...	144	418	108	365

Homebred Heifers.

1951	...	91	342	38	185
1952	...	45	475	17	304
1953	...	72	500	21	265
1954	...	77	502	26	280

The number of cows slaughtered during the year was 190. The reason for slaughtering these are summarised hereunder, with figures for 1953 given for comparison:—

	1954	1953
Low yielding	120	88
Infertility	21	40
T.B.	13	37
Mastitis	14	13
Other Causes	22	22
	190	200

The large number of uneconomic cows slaughtered reflects the low quality of a section of the herd. This section is comprised mainly of animals recently purchased for replacements and to a lesser extent of a number of young heifers which were considered too poor for retention. The problem of irregular breeding was dealt with in my last report, and

the remedy outlined has been put into effect with good success. The table also shows that the incidence of T.B. and Mastitis in relation to the size of the herd, is low. I also discussed in previous reports the problem of a decline in the second lactation of heifers. The remedies suggested have been put into effect, but sufficient information is not yet available to give an indication of the results. This point will have a greater significance in future when it is expected that heifers will be coming into production in greater numbers and at an earlier age than heretofore.

I have found that Freisians are maturing somewhat earlier than shorthorns, and it is possible to have them calving down from 2 years and 3 months onwards. The best calving age of shorthorns in my experience was 2 years and 6 months. Early maturity is a very important economic point in heifers.

6. GENERAL.

As pointed out in this report under the appropriate headings the profits from grain crops, potatoes and pig-production are down from last year, but have yet left a safe margin of profit despite many disadvantages. It is apparent that these activities are on a sound basis and appear to be able to withstand unfavourable weather conditions, price fluctuations and other risks to which farming is exposed. This is not true of milk production which is open to a variety of influences *e.g.*, labour costs, purchased and home-produced food costs, cattle prices, incidence of disease, etc., any one of which can cause a considerable increase in costs. This is one reason why the present credit for milk produced on the

Board's farm, viz., 2/6 a gallon, is considered insufficient even if it could be produced more economically than at present. The fixed price is so low that upward fluctuations in costs cannot take place without showing a high loss in production.

Every possible effort is being made to reduce costs, and all aspects of production are receiving the greatest attention in particular the larger items, i.e., food and labour, yet there are little prospects of costs falling below the present credit allowed. It should be noted that high costs appear to be a general problem in the dairying industry, and it is obvious from the opinions of the various farming organizations throughout the country that on most dairy farms costs are very high, and indeed, some farms are reported to be producing at a loss.

JAMES HAYES,
Agricultural Manager.

23rd January, 1956.

APPENDIX

COST RATES USED IN CALCULATING PRODUCTION

COSTS, YEAR 1954/55.

(a) HORSE LABOUR COSTS.

	£	s.	d.
Cost of repairs and depreciation of harness ...	104	14	4
Cost of shoeing and miscellaneous items ...	107	3	3
Hay consumed (11 tons) ...	88	0	0
Grazing (5 acres) ...	60	0	0
Oats fed (170 barrels) ...	449	17	0
Bran fed (20 cwts.) ...	23	9	11
Sugar pulp fed (80 cwts.) ...	71	10	8
Repairs to stables ...	2	11	10
Labour in attending to horses ...	56	13	9
	<hr/>		
	£964	0	9

Average number of horses maintained ...	14.7
Average number of horses engaged in farmwork ...	7.7
Average number of horses engaged in dairy work ...	2.0
Total number of hours worked by farm horses ...	13,466
Average number of hours worked per horse ...	1,749
Average cost per horse ...	£65 11 7
Average cost per horse hour ...	9d.

No depreciation of horses is allowed in respect of this year.

(b) TRACTOR COSTS.

	£	s.	d.
T.V.O. (2,162 gallons) ...	157	13	0
Petrol (270 gallons) ...	43	0	8
Diesel Oil (5,637 gallons) ...	328	16	6
Lubricants ...	96	8	0
Tyres and Tubes ...	173	16	3
Taxation, insurances and licences ...	145	7	0
Minor repairs by drivers ...	35	9	2
Spare parts and replacements ...	320	19	1
Maintenance by Engineer's Staff ...	424	16	8
Depreciation of tractors 15% ...	383	2	0
	£2,109	8	4

Total number of tractor hours worked ... 15,336

Average cost per tractor hour ... 2 9

(c) WAGES COSTS.

	£	s.	d.
Wages of Tillage Foreman and extra allowance to Under Foreman ...	631	0	6
Annual leave, sick and compassionate leave, harvest bonus, church holidays, etc. ...	1,066	6	8
Wet Time ...	148	13	3
	£1,846	0	5

distributed at the rate of 4½d. per hour worked at farmwork.

Adult wage rate for the year ... £5 4 0 per week.

Tractor driver's rate ... 5 14 0 "

Juvenile rate from £2 8s. 6d. to £5 1s. 6d. per week.

(d) CAPITAL CHARGES.

Sinking fund and capital charges on lands and buildings plus half rates on Santry Court amount to £2,656 9s. 0d., of which £983 15s. 0d. has been allocated to buildings as follows:

Dairy cows ...	£740	0	0
Young stock ...	80	0	0
Pigs ...	80	0	0
Overheads ...	83	15	0
	£983	15	0

The balance has been distributed over 890 acres at the rate of £1 17s. 7d. per acre.

(e) WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE ENGINEER'S DEPT. :—

Repairs and maintenance costs analysed during the year were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Overhead charges	154	3	3
Milk production costs	494	14	11
Pig production costs	64	6	10
Young stock raising	25	2	10
Repairs to horse stables	2	11	10
Repairs to slaughterhouse	19	15	11
Tractor maintenance	582	11	7
Trailer repairs	21	15	6
Cart repairs	43	5	6
Repairs to ploughs and cultivators	9	7	6
Repairs to mowers and rakes	19	18	7
Upkeep of silage machinery	44	18	10
Upkeep of potato machinery	95	6	9
Upkeep of hay machinery	8	14	11
Upkeep of corn machinery	7	17	1
Making electric fence posts	32	3	2
	£1,626	15	0

Water, fuel and light supplied :—

Water ...	£138	1	11	Charged against milk production				
Fuel ...	£450	0	0	60%	milk production	£270	0	0
				40%	pig production	£180	0	0
Light ...	£225	8	0	65%	milk production	£146	8	0
				35%	pig production	£79	0	0

New Buildings and Special Works :—

	£	s.	d.
Alterations to farm office (£99 4s. 0d.), 10% charged against overhead costs ...	9	18	5
Conversion of portion of back shed to a piggery charged in full against pig production costs ...	38	7	1
Extension to pig feeding house (£313 9s. 5d.), 10% charged against pig production costs ...	31	6	11
Construction of roadway to Turvey silo pit charged in full against silage-making costs ...	38	7	4
Construction of implement shed at Ballymashone (£649 7s. 7d.) : no charge for 1954 as this building was not used during the year.			
Fitting roof supports to new loft, Portrane yard, charged in full against overhead costs ...	19	4	6
Provision and installation of milk cooling plants at Turvey and Portrane (£726 19s. 3d.), 10% charged against milk production costs ...	72	13	11
Re-erection of fuel shed, Portrane yard (£7 11s. 4d.), not completed, therefore no charge for 1954.			
Water extension and erection of drinking troughs (£137 2s. 9d.), covered by an annual fixed charge against milk production ...	180	0	0
Painting farm buildings at Turvey farmyard (£296 13s. 1d.) 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % charged against milk production costs ...	98	17	8
Total charge for 1954/5 ...	£488	15	10

The following uncharged amounts of capital works are carried forward from previous years :—

	£	s.	d.
1949/50 ...	94	4	3
1950/1 ...	154	6	5
1951/2 ...	56	9	9
1952/3 ...	23	7	10
1953/4 ...	229	11	1

making a total charge of £1,046 14s. 7d. for 1954/5, which is distributed to the following cost accounts:—

	£	s.	d.
Overheads ...	369	1	1
Milk production ...	428	18	7
Pig production ...	93	2	11
Silage production ...	148	11	8
Young stock raising ...	7	0	4
	<hr/> £1,046 14 7		

(f) RECLAMATION WORK.

	£	s.	d.
Labour in laying drains, general field reclamation, mole draining and sub-soiling ...	514	11	11
Stones and drain-pipes used ...	278	4	5
Depreciation of equipment and carts ...	33	15	0
	<hr/> £826 11 4		

10% of the total cost of reclamation work is charged annually against overhead costs. The proportionate charge for this year is £420 4s. 9d., as follows:—

	Total Cost	10%
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1954/5 ...	826 11 4	82 13 2
1953/4 ...	607 11 11	60 15 2
1952/3 ...	738 11 7	73 17 3
1951/2 ...	1,216 11 2	121 13 1
1950/1 ...	545 5 0	54 10 6
1949/50 ...	267 17 8	26 15 7
		<hr/> £420 4 9
Total proportionate charge, 1954/5		

(g) LIMING OF LAND.

				£	s.	d.
Ground limestone applied	...	...	...	158	11	3
Cost of application	...	...	...	212	8	7
				£370	19	10

10% of the cost of this work is charged against overhead costs, added to this amount is 10% of the cost of similar work carried out the previous year so that there is a total charge of £61 4s. 7d. in respect of 1954/5.

(h) OVERHEAD COSTS.

				£	s.	d.
Capital charges in buildings	...	...	...	83	15	0
Repairs and Maintenance	...	...	...	134	3	3
New Buildings and Special Works	...	...	...	389	1	1
Miscellaneous work done by the farm staff	...	...	...	590	16	11
Reclamation work	...	...	...	420	4	9
Liming of Land	...	...	...	61	4	7
Purchase and depreciation of miscellaneous equipment	...	...	...	163	19	9
Salary of Agricultural Manager (part)	...	...	...	600	18	2
Salaries of Clerical Assistants	...	...	...	812	6	8
Salary and expenses of Agricultural Consultant	...	...	...	155	4	7
Wages of Steward and relief at Santry Court (part)	...	...	...	81	9	6
Telephone charges	...	...	...	60	0	0
Advertising and sundry charges	...	...	...	45	5	4
Car allowance of Agricultural Manager	...	...	...	194	2	10
				£3,792	12	5

Distributed over 890 acres — £4 5s. 3d. per acre.

(i) FARMYARD MANURE.

	£	s.	d.
Labour in carting and handling straw ...	81	12	5
Labour in carting and handling dung ...	597	5	4
Straw purchased ...	473	2	3
Straw produced from 118 acres of wheat ...	708	0	0
Straw produced from 17 acres of barley ...	68	0	0
Straw produced from 14 acres of oats ...	56	0	0
Depreciation of carts and trailers ...	37	16	0
	<hr/>		
	£2,021	16	0
Deduct for stocks of straw on hands ...	57	15	0
	<hr/>		
	£1,964	1	0

Estimated production—2,590 tons.

Cost per ton—15s. 2d.

PRODUCTION COSTS.

1. WHEAT.

Acreage 118.

Cost per acre :—	£	s.	d.
Working operations :—			
Manual labour ...	5	12	10
Tractor labour ...	1	0	3
Horse labour ...	0	1	6
Work done during winter, 1953 ...	1	8	9
Depreciation and repairs :—			
Ploughs and cultivators ...	0	11	7
Drills, harvesters, binders, twine, etc. ...	1	5	0
Trailers ...	0	1	6
Seeds and dressings ...	3	2	9
Hire of sacks ...	0	5	11
Artificial manures ...	1	16	0
Manurial residues ...	2	4	0
Overhead costs ...	4	5	3
Rent ...	1	17	7
	<hr/>		
Total cost per acre ...	24	1	11

Total cost of the entire crop	...	£2,843 6 2
Total gross returns :—		
Wheat sold	...	4,276 15 11
Value of wheat retained for seed	...	69 8 0
Allowance for straw	...	708 0 0
		<hr/> £5,054 3 11
Average gross return per acre	...	£46 12 10
Average nett profit per acre	...	22 10 11
Average yield per acre	...	11.25 barrels.

Analysis of labour and power used.

Hours per acre :	1954/5	1953/4
Man	30.8	82.3
Tractor	15.1	18.1
Horse	2.3	3.1
Yield per acre (barrels)	11.25	12.61
Acres	118.00	113.00

Analysis of costs per acre :—

	1954/5	1953/4
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Working operations	8 12 4	12 10 8
Seeds and dressings	3 2 9	3 9 0
Manures and residues	4 0 0	4 14 11
Overheads, rent, etc.	8 6 10	8 3 7
	<hr/> £24 1 11	<hr/> £28 18 2

2. POTATOES.

Acreage 92.

Cost per acre :—			
Working Operations :—			£ s. d.
Manual labour	...	...	39 18 3
Tractor labour	...	...	5 6 5
Horse labour	...	...	1 10 11
Work done during Winter, 1953	...	...	2 2 5
Seed	...	...	13 3 6
Farmyard Manure, <i>less</i> residues	...	...	8 10 7
Artificial Manures	...	...	6 7 4
Spraying materials	...	...	2 11 8
Depreciation and repairs :—			
Trailers and carts	...	...	0 10 1
Ploughs and cultivators	...	...	0 11 7
Other potato equipment	...	...	3 6 0
Overheads	...	...	4 5 3
Rent	...	...	1 17 7
Total cost per acre	...	...	<hr/>£90 1 7

Total cost of production including delivery to	£	s.	d.
Stores, Grangegormian	8,374	13	5
Total Gross returns:—			
Value of potatoes delivered to hospitals up to			
31/3/1955	9,374	12	4
Value of potatoes retained for seed	600	0	0
Value of potatoes fed to pigs	309	0	0
Value of potatoes delivered to stores after			
31/3/55, less handling costs	1,314	18	10
	£11,649	11	2

Average return per acre	£126	12	6
Average profit per acre	35	11	11

Analysis of Costs per acre.

	1954/5	1953/4
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Working Operations	48 18 0	41 0 3
Seeds	13 3 6	11 10 8
Manures less residues	14 17 11	12 9 0
Overheads, sundries and rent	13 2 2	10 14 1
	£80 1 7	£76 0 0

Analysis of labour and power used.

	1954/5	1953/4
Hours per acre		
Man	139.6	146.4
Juvenile	244.6	173.6
Tractor	43.0	38.4
Horse	41.4	35.0
Yield per acre	7.76 tons	9.00 tons
Acreage	92.0	95.5

3. BARLEY

Acreage 17.

Cost per acre :—

Working Operations—					£	s.	d.
Manual labour	...	...	...	...	8	11	4
Tractor labour	...	...	...	...	2	3	7
Horse labour	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
Depreciation and repairs :—							
Ploughs and cultivators	...	...	...	...	0	11	7
Corn drills, harvester, binder, twine, etc.	...	...	...	...	1	5	0
Trailers	...	...	...	...	0	1	6
Seeds and dressings	...	...	...	...	2	3	0
Artificial manures	...	...	...	...	1	14	7
Manurial residues	...	...	...	...	2	4	0
Overheads	...	...	...	...	4	5	3
Rent	...	...	...	...	1	17	7
Total cost per acre	...	...	...	...	£24	17	9

	£	s.	d.
Total cost of production	423	1	9
Total gross returns :—			
Estimated market value of barley	555	0	0
Allowance made for straw	68	0	0
	£623	0	0

Average gross return per acre	...	...	...	36	12	11
Average nett profit per acre	...	...	...	11	15	2
Average yield per acre	...	...	...	15	5	barrels.
Cost of production per ton after making an allowance for straw	...	...	...	£15	9	7

Analysis of Costs per acre.

	1954/5	1953/4
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Working operations	10 15 3	13 18 7
Seeds	2 3 0	2 6 0
Manures and residues	3 18 7	3 8 4
Overheads, rent, etc.	8 0 11	8 2 7
	£24 17 9	£27 16 6

Analysis of Labour and Power used.

Hours per acre	1954/5	1953/4
Man	67.2	92.3
Tractor	15.9	17.6
Horse	5	3.4
Yield per acre (barrels)	13.5	17.36
Acreage	17.0	30.0

4. FODDER BEET.

Acreage 12.5.

Cost per acre :—

Working Operations :—	£	s.	d.
Manual labour	00	15	8
Tractor labour	2	15	5
Horse labour	1	7	0
Work done during 1953/4	4	7	8
Depreciation and repairs :—			
Ploughs and cultivators	0	11	7
Special machinery	0	15	10
Trailers and Carts	0	10	1
Seeds	1	10	6
Farmyard manure <i>less</i> residues	8	10	7
Artificial manures	0	6	7
Overheads	4	5	3
Rent	1	17	7
	£93	19	9

Analysis of costs per acre.

	1954/5	1953/4
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Working Operations	69 5 9	72 8 3
Manures	14 17 2	13 17 0
Overheads, rent, etc.	9 16 10	9 15 6
	£93 19 9	£96 0 9

Analysis of labour and power used.

Hours per acre	...	...	1954/5	1953/4
Man	...	...	194.0	318.6
Juvenile	...	...	408.8	275.1
Tractor	...	...	32.1	37.3
Horse	...	...	36.0	41.9
Yield per acre (root equivalent)	...	...	13.5 tons.	23.3 tons.
Acreage	...	...	12.5	12.0
Cost per ton (root equivalent)	...	...	£8 19 3	£3 19 8

5. OATS.

Acreage 14.

Cost per acre :—

Working Operations :—				£ s. d.
Manual labour	...	...	...	6 19 4
Tractor labour	...	...	...	1 17 10
Horse labour	...	...	...	0 11 6
Depreciation and repairs :—				
Ploughs and cultivators	...	...	...	0 11 7
Corn drills, harvester, twine, etc.	...	...	...	1 5 0
Trailers	...	...	...	0 1 6
Seeds and dressings	...	...	...	2 18 8
Artificial manures	...	...	...	2 18 9
Cost of drying grain	...	...	...	2 12 3
Overheads	...	...	...	4 5 3
Rent	...	...	...	1 17 7
				<hr/> £25 19 3

Average yield per acre	...	...	8.71 barrels.
Cost per barrel after making adjustment for the quantity of straw produced	...	...	£2 10 5

As this crop is not generally grown on the farms, an analysis of costs is of little benefit. Total cost of production per acre is comparable with the cost of producing other cereal crops during the year under review.

6. SILAGE.

Average 152.

Total Cost :—

Working Operations :—				£	s.	d.
Manual labour	...	...	...	790	8	0
Tractor labour	...	...	...	197	5	2
Horse labour	...	...	...	32	3	6
Depreciation and repairs :						
Trailers	...	...	...	22	8	0
Loaders	...	...	...	152	12	1
Mowers and rakes	...	...	...	38	2	10
Molasses	...	...	...	400	10	10
Erection of pits (annual charge)	...	...	...	148	11	8
Manures	...	...	...	255	0	0
Grass seeds	...	...	...	80	17	10
Overheads	...	...	...	323	10	0
Rent	...	...	...	142	16	4
				£2,684 15 3		

Estimated production ...	...	900 tons.
Cost of production per ton	...	£2 17 5
Cost of production per ton, 1933/54	...	£2 0 7

Analysis of Costs per ton.

		1954/5	1953/4
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Working Operations	...	1 2 8	0 17 2
Overheads, rent, etc.	...	1 0 2	0 16 4
Molasses	...	0 8 11	0 8 3
Manures	...	0 5 8	0 4 10
		£2 17 3	£2 0 7

Analysis of Labour and Power used.

Hours per ton :		1954/5	1953/4
Man	...	6.00	5.07
Tractor	...	1.59	1.11
Horse	...	.05	1.11

7. HAY.

Acreage 130.

Total Costs :—

Working Operations :—					£	s.	d.
Manual labour	...	...	...	...	996	6	5
Tractor	...	...	...	...	120	9	0
Horse	...	...	...	...	52	2	2
Depreciation and repairs :							
Hay carts and sundries	...	...	...	...	31	1	8
Mowers and rakes	...	...	...	...	31	15	5
Trailers	...	...	...	...	6	8	0
Manures	...	...	...	...	221	0	0
Grass seeds	...	...	...	...	71	7	6
Overheads	...	...	...	...	277	1	3
Rent	...	...	...	...	122	2	11
					£1,929 14 4		

Estimated produce on	...	327 tons
Cost of production per ton	...	£5 18 0
Cost of production per ton, 1953	...	£6 14 11

Analysis of Costs per ton.

		1954/5	1953/4
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Working Operations	...	3 11 6	3 13 11
Manures	...	0 13 6	0 18 7
Overheads, rent, etc.	...	1 13 0	2 2 5
		£5 18 0	£6 14 11

Analysis of Labour and Power used.

Hours per ton		1954/5	1953/4
Man	...	24.8	24.67
Tractor	...	2.7	3.33
Horse	...	4.2	4.62

8. GRASS.

Acreage (estimated) 455.

Total Cost :—

Working Operations :—				£	s.	d.
Manual labour	...	...	...	715	9	6
Tractor labour	...	...	...	197	0	0
Horse labour	...	...	...	33	10	7
Manures	...	...	...	1,546	17	0
Seeds	...	...	...	139	17	10
Fencing materials	...	...	...	104	10	11
Depreciation and repairs	...	...	...	47	0	11
Overheads	...	...	...	1,949	11	3
Rent	...	...	...	856	4	1
				<hr/> £5,482 9 1		

Cost of production per acre £12 1 0

Cost of production per acre, 1953/54 £11 11 7

Analysis of Costs per acre.

1954/5				1953/4			
£ s. d.				£ s. d.			
Working Operations	...	...	1 17 8	...	...	1 10 8	...
Manures	...	...	3 7 11	...	...	3 11 3	...
Seeds	...	...	0 5 9	...	...	0 5 7	...
Overheads, rent, etc.	...	...	0 9 8	...	...	0 4 1	...
<hr/> £12 1 0				<hr/> £11 11 7			

9. MEAT SUPPLY.

Slaughtering Expenses :—				£	s.	d.
Depreciation of equipment	...	...	...	3	17	0
Repairs to slaughterhouse	...	...	...	19	15	11
Wages of butcher and relief	...	...	...	516	17	3
Other labour involved	...	...	...	141	15	6
				<hr/> £682 5 8		

The total cost of slaughtering is allocated as follows in proportion to the amount of meat obtained from each category of livestock :—

	£	s.	d.
Bullocks ...	248	12	6
Sheep ...	116	0	6
Cows ...	281	14	5
Pigs ...	30	7	0
Young stock ...	5	10	6
	£682	5	8

BULLOCKS AND FAT HEIFERS.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To 137 animals purchased	9,584	18	4	By credit for beef supplied to the hospital	8,092	2	11
" slaughtering expenses	248	12	6	" sale of offals	343	18	0
" hay fed	6	12	0	" closing valuation	458	15	0
" grazing	36	5	0	" loss on 132 animals slaughtered	1,082	14	2
" concentrates fed	10	10	4				
" haulage from market	26	12	8				
" market expenses	45	0	0				
	£10,958	8	10		£9,058	8	10

Average loss per beast slaughtered ... £8 4 $\frac{2}{5}$
 Average loss per beast slaughtered, 1953/4 £6 5 10

SHEEP.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To 17 sheep on hands at 1/4/54	178	10	0	By mutton supplied to the hospital	1,276	2	4
" 514 sheep purchased	4,778	4	0	" offals sold	623	13	7
" slaughtering expenses	116	0	0	" 50 sheep on hands at 31/3/55	521	17	0
" market expenses and haulage costs	65	6	2				
" grazing	90	5	0				
" profit on 481 sheep slaughtered	227	14	8				
	£5,421	14	5		£5,421	14	5

Average profit per sheep slaughtered ... £9 9 6
 Average profit per sheep slaughtered, 1953/4 £9 13 5

10. REARING OF DAIRY HEIFERS.

Total Costs :—

	£	s.	d.
Fodder Beet, 36 tons	250	13	0
Hay, 112 tons	739	4	0
Silage, 145 tons	416	5	5
Concentrates, 58 tons	1,251	12	10
Whole milk, 10,508 gallons	1,313	10	0
Grazing, 100 acres	1,205	0	0
Labour in handling and mixing meals	31	8	4
Wages of farmyard foreman and herds (part)	151	9	10
Salary of Agricultural Manager (part)	80	0	0
Wages of Steward, Santry Court (part)	374	4	2
Other labour	329	3	10
Veterinary expenses	165	1	4
Capital Charges on buildings	80	0	0
Repairs and depreciation of equipment	47	3	11
Repairs to buildings at Santry Court	180	16	0
Capital Works by Engineer's staff	7	0	4
Slaughtering expenses	5	10	6
Value of calves entering young stock herd	678	0	0
	£7,312	3	6
Valuation as at 1/4/54	7,839	10	0
	£15,151	13	6
	10,796	6	0
Valuation as at 31/3/55	132	9	11
Credit for heifers slaughtered	£10,928	9	11
Difference being cost of 77 heifers entering the dairy herd	£4,223	3	7
Average cost per heifer	£54	16	11
Average cost per heifer, 1953/4	£74	10	2

II. PIG PRODUCTION.

Debits:—

	£	s.	d.
Valuation as at 1/4/1954	2,234	5	0
Meals fed	1,000	12	0
Whole milk	150	5	0
Potatoes	360	0	0
Cost of ensiling potatoes	14	18	3
Wages of pig man, relief and foreman	551	4	1
Other labour	91	12	11
Labour in mixing and handling meals	23	0	5
Nightman's wages (part)	202	10	0
Salary of Agricultural Manager (part)	100	0	0
Market expenses	15	0	0
Capital charges on buildings	80	0	0
Repairs to buildings and equipment	64	0	10
Capital Works	93	2	11
Depreciation and replacement of equipment	38	10	5
Slaughtering expenses	30	7	0
Gross paddock	48	4	0
Veterinary expenses	41	15	4
Fuel	180	0	0
Light and heat	114	0	0
Pigs purchased	828	7	7
	£6,262	3	0

Credits:

Valuation as at 31/3/55	£2,268	5	0
Value of pigs sold	2,390	0	0
Value of pigs supplied to Grangeortuan	2,911	10	0
Value of pigs slaughtered	1,165	10	0
	£8,744	5	0

Difference being profit on pig production for the year	£2,482	2	0
Profit for 1953/4	£2,684	17	6
Profit for 1952/3	£3,156	13	4

12. MILK PRODUCTION.

(a) Food.

Concentrates fed to all livestock, excluding oats fed to horses :

	T. C. QRS.	£ s. d.
	366 12 0	7,775 0 0
Fed to young stock ...	58 0 0	1,251 12 10
Fed to pigs ...	42 10 0	1,000 12 6
Fed to fattening cows ...	24 10 0	515 7 1
Fed to horses ...	5 0 0	95 0 7
Fed to bullocks ...	0 10 0	10 10 4
	130 10 0	£2,873 3 4
Balance fed to milch cows	236 2 0	£4,904 16 8
HAY :	T. C. QRS.	£ s. d.
Hay fed to all livestock	413 7 0	2,730 0 6
Fed to young stock ...	112 0 0	416 5 5
Fed to horses ...	11 0 0	88 0 0
Fed to bullocks ...	1 0 0	6 12 0
	124 0 0	£510 17 5
Balance fed to milch cows	289 7 0	£2,219 9 1
SILAGE :	T. C. QRS.	£ s. d.
Silage fed to all livestock	900 0 0	2,584 14 5
Fed to young stock ...	145 0 0	416 5 0
Balance fed to milch cows	755 0 0	£2,168 9 5
FODDER BEET :	T. C. QRS.	£ s. d.
Fodder beet fed to all livestock ...	169 0 0	1,174 10 11
Fed to young stock ...	36 0 0	250 13 0
Balance fed to milch cows	133 0 0	£924 3 11

Grass:		Acres.	£	s.	d.
Total area grazed	...	455	5,482	9	1
Allocated to bullocks	...	3	36	3	0
Allocated to sheep	...	5	60	5	0
Allocated to horses	...	5	60	0	0
Allocated to young stock	...	100	1,203	0	0
Allocated to pigs	...	4	48	4	0
		117	£1,409	12	0
Balance allocated to milk cows	...	338	£4,072	17	1

(b) *Labour:*

	£	s.	d.
Wages of regular milking staff	...	6,278	16 1
Other labour	...	776	12 9
Labour in mixing and handling food	...	130	3 10
Labour in opening silage pits	...	41	12 2
Salary of Agricultural Manager (part)	...	120	0 0
		£7,347	4 10

(c) *Veterinary Expenses:*

Including medicines supplied from the hospital pharmacy	...	£577	12 2
---	-----	------	------

(d) *Herd Replacement Costs:*

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To opening valuation of dairy herd	17,217	10	0	By credit for 100 cows			
" 144 cows purchased	9,523	15	0	slaughtered	5,801	9	1
" 77 heifer calves	4,229	4	7	" sale of offals	572	7	7
" extra feeding for fatten-				" calves entering young			
rows	515	7	1	stock herd	678	0	0
" cost of mixing sows	12	5	5	" calves slaughtered	82	12	5
" market expenses	50	2	0	" calves sold	1,423	0	0
" slaughtering expenses	291	14	5	" bulls sold	274	18	1
" milk fed to calves sold	117	11	0	" closing valuation of			
" balance, being excess of				herd	20,657	10	0
debts over credits	542	4	5				
	£22,500	18	2		£22,500	18	2

(e) *Maintenance and Repairs by Engineer's Dept. :*

	£	s.	d.
Sundry repairs	494	14	11
Water supplied	136	1	11
Fuel supplied	270	0	0
Light and power supplied	211	8	0
New buildings and special works	428	18	7
	£1,541	3	5

(g) *Miscellaneous Costs :*

	£	s.	d.
Capital charges on buildings	740	0	0
Light and power from the E.S.B.	234	4	2
Depreciation of milking machines	150	0	0
Equivalent of 2 horses used for dairy work	131	3	2
Insurance	76	0	0
Subscriptions to C.T.A. and sundry fees	72	0	0
Depreciation of carts and trailers	16	16	0
Depreciation of dairy equipment	50	14	0
Replacement of sundry items	529	1	2
Travelling expenses and extra allowance to farm- yard foreman re A.L. duties	68	15	6
Delivery of milk to Grangegormans stores	500	19	10
Fees paid to the Dublin District Milk Board for A.L. services	314	10	0
	£2,884	3	10

SUMMARY OF MILK PRODUCTION COSTS, 1954/5.

	Total Costs	Costs per gallon (pence)	Percentage of gross costs
	£ s. d.		
Concentrates	4,901 16 8	5.77	18.39
Hay	2,219 0 1	2.61	8.32
Silage	2,168 0 0	2.55	8.13
Fodder beet	924 3 11	1.09	3.48
Grass	4,072 17 1	4.80	15.30
Labour	7,347 4 10	8.65	27.57
Veterinary expenses	577 17 2	.69	2.20
Maintenance	1,541 3 5	1.82	5.80
Miscellaneous	2,884 3 10	3.39	10.81
Gross costs	£26,637 5 0	31.37	100.00
Deduct for excess credits in herd replacements a/c.	542 4 5	.64	
Nett costs	£26,095 0 7	30.73	

SUMMARY OF MILK PRODUCTION COSTS, 1953/4.

	Total costs			Cost per gallon (pence)	Percentage of total costs
	£	s.	d.		
Concentrates ...	5,049	14	10	5.89	17.22
Hay ...	1,523	9	0	1.78	5.31
Silage ...	2,037	18	2	2.38	8.06
Fodder beet ...	993	2	4	1.16	3.39
Kale ...	323	10	10	.38	1.11
Grass ...	3,817	18	2	4.44	12.98
Labour ...	7,191	10	6	8.46	24.56
Veterinary expenses	852	7	9	.99	2.90
Herd replacements	3,478	14	7	4.08	11.93
Maintenance ...	1,353	7	2	1.58	4.62
Miscellaneous ...	2,068	4	7	3.12	9.12
	£29,290	6	11	34.20	100.00

TOTAL CREDITS FOR MILK PRODUCED.

		£	s.	d.
Issued to stores ...	191,142 gallons.	23,892	15	0
Fed to calves ...	11,448 "	1,431	1	3
Fed to pigs ...	1,202 "	150	5	0
	203,792 "	£25,474	1	3

Loss on production ... represents a loss of .73d. per gallon. £629 10 4

Loss on production, 1953/54 ... represented a loss of 4.20d. per gallon. £3,597 5 8

	1954/5	1953/4
Average number of cows in the herd ...	349	348
Average yield per cow ...	584 gallons	591 gallons
Average daily production ...	558 "	563 "

COSTS OF FOODS USED IN MILK PRODUCTION.

	1954/5	1953/4
	Cost per ton	Cost per ton
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Hay (home-produced) ...	5 18 0	6 15 0
Hay (purchased) ...	12 15 9	—
Silage (home-produced) ...	2 17 5	2 6 7
Fodder beet do. ...	6 19 3	3 19 8
Kale do. ...	—	2 15 10
Barley do. ...	15 9 7	16 0 5
Sugar pulp (purchased) ...	17 17 8	16 9 19
Cottonseed do. ...	33 7 4	28 8 9
Malt culms do. ...	14 18 7	14 12 4
Pollard do. ...	23 2 1	—
Bran do. ...	23 9 11	—
Meat and bone do. ...	34 18 8	35 15 2
Minerals do. ...	26 10 0	26 10 0

LABOUR.

	1954/5	1953/4
Man hours per cow ...	143.3	136.6
Man hours per 100 gallons ...	24.5	23.1

13. ANNUAL CHECK ON EACH CATEGORY OF LIVESTOCK.

(a) Dairy Cows.

Opening stock ...	332	Died ...	1
Purchased ...	140	Slaughtered ...	190
Purchased heifers ...	4	Closing stock ...	362
Homebred heifers ...	77		
	553		553

(b) *Young Stock.*

Opening stock	... 259	Died	... 2
Heifers purchased	... 4	Slaughtered	... 19
Bred ...	... 293	Sold	... 170
		To dairy cows	... 81
		Closing stock	... 284
	<hr/> 556		<hr/> 556

(c) *Pigs.*

Opening stock	... 254	Died	... 65
Bred ...	... 839	Sold	... 318
Purchased	... 43	To Grangegorman	... 399
		Slaughtered	... 61
		Closing stock	... 362
	<hr/> 1,136		<hr/> 1,136

(d) *Horses.*

Opening stock	... 16	Died	... 1
Purchased	... 7	Sold	... 7
		Closing stock	... 15
	<hr/> 23		<hr/> 23

(e) *Bullocks.*

Opening stock	... nil	Slaughtered	... 132
Purchased	... 137	Closing stock	... 3
	<hr/> 137		<hr/> 137

(f) *Sheep.*

Opening stock	... 17	Slaughtered	... 481
Purchased	... 514	Closing stock	... 50
	<hr/> 531		<hr/> 531

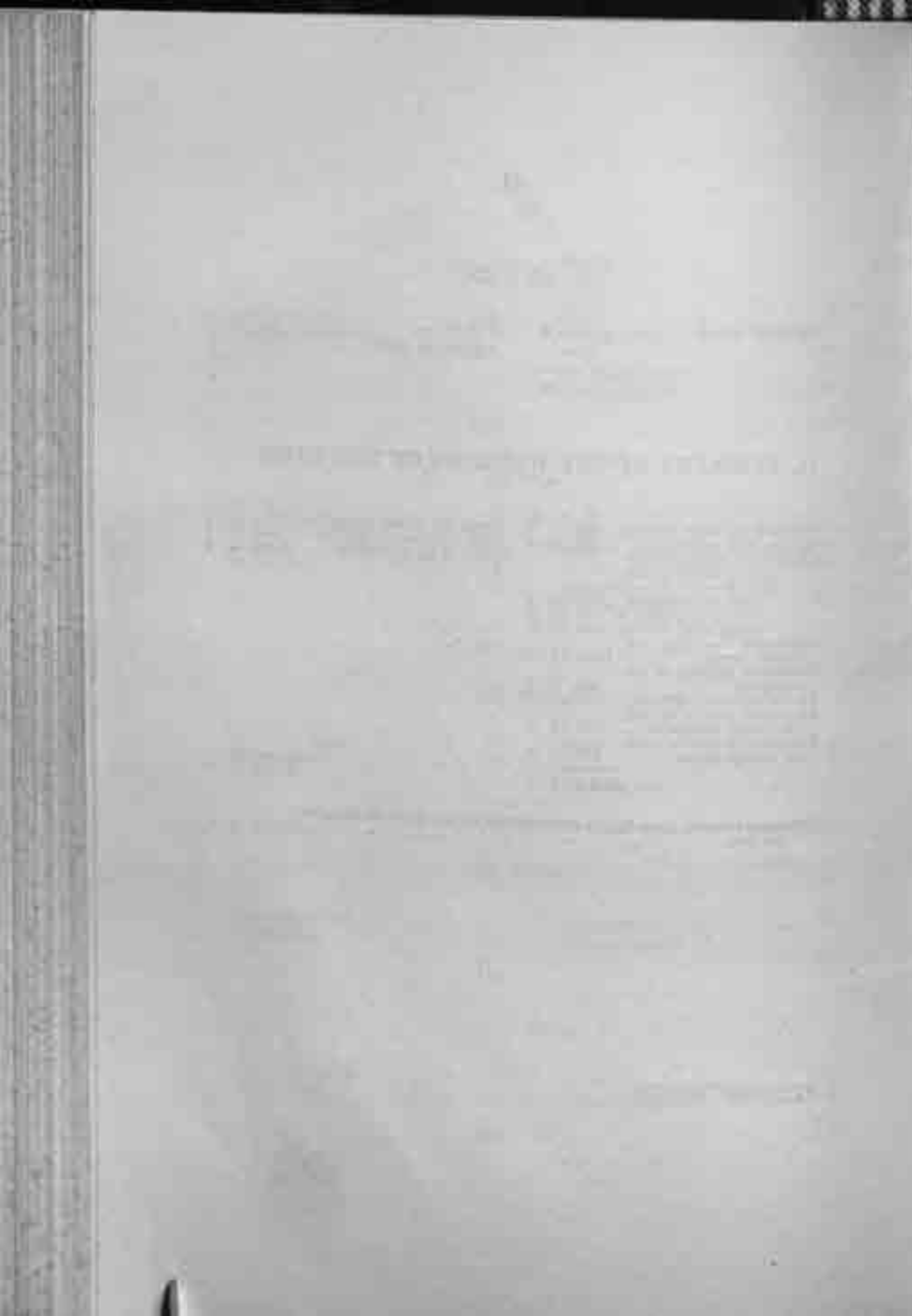
(g) *Bulls.*

Opening stock	...	6	Sold	...	...	3
			Closing stock	...	...	3
		<hr/> 6				<hr/> 6

14. SUMMARY OF THE WORKING OF THE FARM.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Nett loss on meat supplies	855	19	5	Profit on potato production	3,274	17	9
Loss on milk production	629	19	4	Profit on wheat production	2,660	17	9
Other work costed which gave no return during this year:				Profit on pig production	2,482	2	0
Corn crops 1955/6	104	12	5				
Potato crop 1955/6	475	16	2				
Grass crop, 1955/6	205	12	10				
Uncharged portion of capital works	1,379	11	9				
Uncharged portion of reclamation	406	6	7				
Uncharged portion of liming	389	15	3				
Uncharged portion of new machinery purchased	740	19	2				
Uncharged portion of rates on Santry estate	306	0	0				
	<hr/> £5,296	0	0				
					<hr/> £8,417	17	0

Difference between these figures approximates the profit on the farm for the year ... £3,111 8 0



Report No. 263.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 21st day of June, 1956, Councillor William J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. The following members were also present :—

City of Dublin Representatives :—Aldermen Thomas Byrne, T.D., P.C., Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D., Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Bernard Conway, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Con Lehane, Dr. Christopher A. Macken, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., James J. O'Keeffe, Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Patrick T. O'Reilly, Thomas O'Reilly, John Smithers and Ronald Roulston.

County Dublin Representatives :—Councillor James Andrews, P.C., H. P. Dockrell, T.D., Mrs. M. Mulvey and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives :—Councillors C. M. Byrne, William Lawless and P. McCarthy.

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Thomas Stafford, P.C.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 261, of the 17th May, 1956) were confirmed and signed.

CONDOLENCE.

Councillor C. M. Byrne proposed and Mr. Thomas O'Reilly seconded "That we learn with deep regret of the loss which Dr. Dunne, Chief R.M.S., has sustained in the death of his brother and we tender to him and to his family our deepest sympathy".

Mr. Thomas O'Reilly proposed and Councillor Mrs. K. Nix seconded "That we learn with regret of the death of the Right Honourable Alderman Patrick McGrath, T.D., Lord Mayor of Cork, and we tender to his family our deepest sympathy".

The resolutions were adopted in silence, all present standing.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 31st May, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
On Hospital Register at 30th April, 1956	1,745	2,066	3,811
Admitted during month	65	70	135
	1,810	2,136	3,946
	Males	Females	Total
Discharged during month	46	33	79
Died during month	7	19	26
Escaped do.	1	—	1
	54	52	106
Remaining on Hospital Register	1,756	2,084	3,840
Absent on trial and escape	21	26	47
Remaining in residence	1,735	2,058	3,793

DISTRIBUTION.

	Male	Female	Total
In Grangegorman	762	1,225	1,987
In Portrane	973	833	1,806
Total number resident as above	1,735	2,058	3,793

CHARGEABILITY.

City of Dublin	2,900
County Dublin	503
County Wicklow	329
Criminal Lunatics	39
Non-district patients	22
Total	3,793

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

Councillor William Lawless proposed and Mr. Thomas O'Reilly seconded the adoption of Report No. 262 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 24th May, 1956. *Passed unanimously.*

On the motion of Councillor William Lawless, seconded by Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, the Board unanimously commended the Agricultural Manager on the satisfactory manner in which the Report on Farm Costs for 1954-55 had been prepared.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN.

24th May, 1956.

1. We first inspected the Male Visiting Hall and Canteen. The Canteen was very well stocked and doing good business. A radio would be welcome here.

2. We also visited No. 22 Division where all the patients were comfortable; the T.B. Ward where some patients were doing embroidery and all seemed happy and the workroom where all the patients seemed well cared for.

3. The Recreation Ground adjoining No. 11 Division appeared dirty.

4. The Day Room in No. 25 Division is newly decorated and looks very well.

5. The road from the entrance of No. 22 Division to the Workroom is in very bad repair; the gutters were leaking.

6. We saw the patients coming in for lunch in No. 18 Division. The small tables in the Dining Room are a great improvement.

7. We inspected the kitchen and saw the food being prepared for lunch. It looked very appetising.

8. We visited the General Dining Hall when the patients were having lunch. There were no complaints.

9. We wish to thank Dr. Comer and Miss Murphy, Deputy Matron; also Dr. MacCarthy who accompanied us later in the evening.

W. J. COLMAN,

KATHLEEN NIX,

MARY MULVEY.

Order.—See Manager's Supplemental Report of this date.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

22nd May, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane on Tuesday, May 22nd, and before going to the Hospital we called to see the new house provided for the B.M.S. We were disappointed to find that after an expenditure of £6,000 the house does not in our opinion represent good value for such an outlay. Defects such as badly laid flooring in the reception and bathrooms are apparent. The type of doors installed and their fittings are cheap looking while the bath supplied seems to be too small. The position of the heating radiators on the ground floor detracts from the appearance of the house. We suggest that steps be taken to remedy these defects and that the Board's Architect be asked to report on the house. A proper road surface giving access to the house should be laid down.

2. With Dr. Aird we visited the newly constructed Children's Unit and saw workmen putting the finishing touches to the premises. We were impressed by the general layout and finish of the building reflecting a high degree of skilled workmanship. We were informed that it was proposed to transfer patients from No. 8 Division as soon as possible to

this building. Later we saw some of these patients and we appreciate very much the problems associated with the care of them. To our surprise we learned that it is proposed to provide an aquarium in the new unit at a cost of something like £80 as we were not aware that this expenditure had been sanctioned by the Board. We think that the Board should be kept informed as to what progress is being made for the treatment and care of the patients occupying the new unit.

3. We visited No. 19 Division and learned that no supply of hot water is available after 5 p.m. and at week-ends. A continuous supply of hot water is essential to provide facilities for the staff who look after the many patients in this Division—mainly old women. With Mr. Chalmers we discussed the matter and he informed us that members of the Heating Contractor's staff were engaged in changing the hot water system and it was hoped to complete the work soon. We request that further information in the matter be made available.

4. We visited the dining hall where female patients were partaking of their mid-day meal. All appeared to be enjoying it and we received no complaints.

5. We wish to thank Dr. Aird and other members of the staff for their kindness and co-operation shown us in the course of our visit.

WILLIAM J. COLMAN.
WILLIAM CHASE.
JOHN CAHILL.
EUGENE TIMMONS.

Order.—See Manager's Supplemental Report of this date.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangeogorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to the 19th July, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board:—

GRANGEGERMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

" Mrs. Catherine Byrne.

Mr. William Chase.

Mr. Thomas O'Reilly.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

" Gilbert Hughes.

" William Lawless.

Mr. John Smithers.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

15th June, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on 12th June, 1956, 3,818 patients, viz:—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
In Grangeogorman	774	1,241	2,015
In Portrane	971	832	1,803
Totals	1,745	2,073	3,818

as compared with:—

12th June, 1955	1,758	2,054	3,812
12th June, 1954	1,735	2,020	3,745
12th June, 1953	1,679	2,060	3,739
12th June, 1952	1,617	1,981	3,598

this year's number being six more than on the corresponding date last year, and 220 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. At mid-day on the 1st instant male patient P.S. (31903), aged 74 years was found dead in the Carpenter's Shop at Grangegorman. This man had been a patient in the hospital division for two months but was up and about and he was in the habit of going into the Carpenter's Shop to read the paper and have a cup of tea. The Coroner was notified and a post mortem was performed on his instructions which showed that the cause of death was coronary occlusion. The Coroner did not deem an inquest necessary.

4. Male Patient J.B. (9753) and J.R. (9754) escaped from the grounds of No. 10 Division at Grangegorman on the afternoon of the 24th ultimo during a heavy shower. The latter returned with a brother within two hours and the former was located at his home in Co. Dublin and brought back to the hospital by male nurses at 2 a.m. the following morning.

Male patient E.C. (9792) escaped from the grounds of No. 7 Division at Grangegorman on the afternoon of the 7th instant. He was brought back by two male nurses from his sister's home the following morning.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that there was no negligence on the part of the nursing staff in relation to these escapes.

Male Patient P.P. (10109), a liberty patient, was found to be missing from Grangegorman at supper time on the 7th instant. The usual search was made and the Gardaí were notified but without result.

5. *Accidents to Patients* (Grangegorman).—Female patient M.A.L. (24808) slipped on the ward floor when going to Mass on the 31st ultimo and sustained an injury over her right eye and a fracture of her right wrist.

Female patient M.F. (867) fell on the dayroom floor in No. 11 Division on the 6th ultimo and fractured her left wrist.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

6. *Accidents to Patients, Portrane*.—On the 8th ultimo male patient P.D. (31919) aged 57 years, was struck by another patient and knocked to the floor. He complained of pain in the left leg and an X-ray showed a fracture of the neck of the femur.

On the 12th ultimo male patient G.H. (9047), aged 71 years, slipped when getting out of bed in No. 6 Division. An examination showed clinical evidence of a fracture of the upper third of the right femur which was later confirmed by X-ray.

On 17th ultimo female patient J.N. (38229), aged 49 years while sitting on a seat in No. 5 Dayroom was knocked to the floor by another patient. She complained of pain in the left thigh and an X-ray examination showed a fracture in the upper third of the left femur.

The Portrane Medical Superintendent assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

7. *Accidents to Staff* (Grangegorman).—On the 8th instant Attendant K.F. fell and injured her head when alighting from a bus. She has been off duty since that date.

H.H., clerical officer, was off duty from the 17th to the 26th ultimo with an injury to his left foot sustained at home.

Temporary Attendant P.R. was off duty from the 5th to the 8th instant, inclusive, with an injury to his nose which occurred when he was playing football with the hospital team.

Attendant T. McG. was off duty from the 19th to the 23rd ultimo with an injury to her left hand caused by a fall on the steps of the Nurses' Home.

A number of other accidents to members of the nursing staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

8. *Accidents to Staff (Portrane).*—On the 4th ultimo Nurse K.L. slipped when on duty in No. 7 Division and fractured her right forearm. She has been off duty since that date.

Attendant M.K. was kicked on the left ankle by a patient on the 9th ultimo and she was off duty until the 17th.

Nurse E.K.M. was off duty from the 11th to the 16th ultimo with an injury to her left foot caused by a fall on the stairs of the Nurses' Home.

A.G. Carter, was absent from duty from the 16th to the 18th ultimo owing to dog bites received while at home.

A number of other accidents to members of the Portrane staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

9. With reference to the Inspection carried out at Grange-gorman on the 19th April by Councillors Hughes and Timmons and Mr. T. O'Reilly, I have to report :—

Item 1.—The re-decoration of the dormitory in No. 11 Division will be carried out during the coming year. The dayroom was redecorated last year.

As already reported the redecoration of the Female Dining Hall must be postponed until the New Female Visiting Hall is completed.

The provision of extra sanitary fittings in the Female House is provided for in the second stage of the scheme for the improvement of water services in the Female House at Grangegorman, on which I reported to the Board last month and which has been submitted to the Department of Health for the Minister's approval.

The Clerk of Works is examining the question of providing an office for the Charge Nurse in No. 27 Division.

Item 5.—At the date of the Committee's Inspection, the contract for the Stores building was not completed. It is agreed that further shelving is necessary and the precise amount to be installed will be decided when the Storekeeper returns from sick leave. The only part of this building which has a terrazo floor is the toilet. The heating of the building generally is considered to be adequate.

10. A fire occurred in one roller of the laundry calender at Portrane on the 28th ultimo. It was observed at 8.30 a.m. on that date but it had evidently been smouldering for some time. The entire covering of the roller was destroyed and the Chief Engineer estimates that the cost of making good the damage will be £37 10s. A claim for that amount has been submitted to the Board's Insurers.

11. Arrangements have been made to commence the annual excursions for working patients. The patients from Grangegorman will go to Mornington, Co. Louth and those from Portrane to Roundwood, Co. Wicklow, as in previous years.

12. The approval of the Minister for Health has been obtained to the working drawings for the reconstruction of the second block of temporary buildings (formerly No. 2 Division) at Grangegorman. The Department of Health has informed me that a further communication about the question of a grant towards the cost of the work will be sent as soon as possible.

13. The Department of Health has informed me that the Minister is anxious that a better standard of care for patients in district mental hospitals should be provided and the machinery of internal administration improved. A meeting of Resident Medical Superintendents to discuss these questions has been arranged for Tuesday, 19th June, which the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent will attend.

14. Further to Paragraph 13 of my report of the 11th May, I have discussed with the Portrane Medical Superintendent the question of the public lighting of the grounds at Portrane. On his recommendation I have approved of a proposal that the lights on the main avenue should be in operation from 6 a.m. to dawn as well as from dusk to midnight and I have requested the Board's Consulting Engineer to obtain an estimate from the Electricity Supply Board for these extended hours. The service roadways, i.e., those connecting externally the various divisions are lighted from the hospital mains and the hours of lighting can be arranged to suit the hospital requirements from time to time.

15. On the recommendation of the Head Gardener I have accepted the tender of Messrs. Atco Ltd., for two 34" Motor Mowers at £255 each less a trade-in allowance of £66 for an old motor mower. One of these machines is required for Grangegorman and the other for Portrane.

16. I have authorised the Chief Engineer to repair one of the lean-to glasshouses in the Garden at Portrane at an estimated cost of £280. It is necessary to renew all the roof timbers and reglaze the house and the Chief Engineer proposes to use aluminium glazing sections which have a longer life and require less maintenance than timber sections.

17. I have accepted the following tenders for the supply of Women's Dresses, being the lowest of four for each type received in response to public advertisement :—

Messrs. Todd Burns & Co., Ltd., for 80 dozen print dresses at 126/- a doz.

Messrs. D. Kellett, Ltd., for 48 dozen Hopsack Tweed Dresses at 429/- a doz.

18. I have received an application from the Electrical Trades Union for an increase of 5/- a week to 50/- a week in the rate of country money paid to temporary electricians employed at Portrane. I request the Board's consent to this increase, subject to confirmation that it has been applied generally in the trade.

19. It is necessary to employ a locum tenens for the Compounder of Medicines at Grangegorman each year during the absence of the permanent Compounder on annual leave. The rate paid to the locum tenens for the last three years has been £9 12s. 6d. a week. A new rate of £10 12s. 6d. for qualified chemists acting as locum tenens has been agreed between the Irish Drug Association and the appropriate Trade Union and I propose to pay it to the locum tenens employed this year, subject to the consent of the Board and the sanction of the Minister for Health.

T. O'BROIN,
Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO BOARD.

21st June, 1956.

20. Since 14th ultimo 74 male and 79 female patients were admitted, total 153. One hundred and forty seven of these were chargeable patients, of whom 76 were Temporary, 50 were Voluntary and 21 were Persons of Unsound Mind. Two private temporary patients were also admitted and one patient from each of the following Mental Hospitals for special treatment under Section 208 of the Mental Treatment Act 1945—Ardee, Ballinasloe, Killarney and Letterkenny.

21. A report has been received from the Ladies After-Care Committee covering the twelve months ended 30th September, 1955, during which period the total number of visits paid to discharged patients was 459. I have endorsed the Chief R.M.S.' appreciation of the very valuable work carried out by the After-Care Committee which is of the greatest assistance to the medical staff and, on the Board's behalf, I am expressing sincere thanks to these ladies for their voluntary charitable work.

22. The Agricultural Manager has reported that the recent six monthly test of the dairy herd and young stock has revealed a high percentage (10.6%) of reactors among the young cattle at Santry Court. He thinks it possible that a stream running through the lands at Santry may be a source of infection and he recommends that the river be fenced off and piped water laid on to the grazing area, at an estimated cost of £100. I have approved this recommendation as a matter of urgency.

23. The following are particulars of the results obtained in the Mental Nursing Examinations held by An Bord Altranais in May last :—

Fourteen Grangegorm candidates (3 male and 11 female attendants) sat for the Preliminary Examination, of whom seven were successful (one male and six female attendants). Eight candidates (2 male and 5 female attendants and one General Trained Nurse) sat for the Final Examination, all of whom were successful.

Nineteen Portrane candidates (8 male and 11 female attendants) sat for the Preliminary Examination, of whom five were successful (3 male and 2 female attendants). Three female candidates sat for the Final Examination, one of whom was successful.

24. With reference to the Inspection carried out at Portrane on 22nd May, by Councillors Colman and Timmons and Messrs. Cahill and Chase, I have to report :—

Item I.—I am submitting a special report from the Board's Architect on the new residence for the Portrane Medical Superintendent, which deals with the points raised by the Visiting Members.

Item II.—The working drawings for the Children's Division, which included the provision of an aquarium, were submitted to and approved by the Board's Special Building Committee on 30th September, 1954. An estimate of the approximate cost of this scheme and the services for No. 10 Division, viz., £16,236, was submitted to and approved by the Board on 18th November, 1954.

I am informed that the cost of the tank for the aquarium, which is installed already, is approximately £12. The fittings, plants, fish, etc., will cost not more than £40.

Item III.—There was difficulty about the supply of hot water to No. 10 Division in the evenings and at the week-ends because alternating current was not available to operate the automatic stokers on the boiler. Alternating current has now been installed and the boiler is operating satisfactorily.

25. With reference to the Inspection carried out at Grangegorman on 24th May, I have to report :—

Item III.—I will consult the Visiting Committee about this as I am not clear as to the location of the grounds referred to. There has been a good deal of disturbance to the grounds at the lower end of the Female House caused by work on the water mains.

Item V.—The road re-surfacing programme for the current year covers the area from the New Stores by way of the female boiler house and laundry to the Workroom. The roads around No. 22 Division were re-surfaced in recent years and they are in good condition. The gutters around No. 22 Division are receiving attention.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon :—

Par. 18.—On the motion of Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor Bernard Conway, the Board unanimously consented to the increase in the rate of country money payable to temporary electricians at Portrane, subject to confirmation

that this increase has been applied generally in the Trade.

Par. 19.—On the motion of Mr. John Cahill, seconded by Mr. Anthony Lalor, the Board unanimously consented to the increased rate for the Locum Tenens employed for the Chemist at Grangegorman, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Health.

Par. 21.—The Board endorsed the Manager's appreciation of the valuable work carried out by the Ladies' After-Care Committee.

Par. 24.—Architect's Report about the residence for the Portrane Medical Superintendent referred to a meeting of the Special Building Committee to be held at 2 p.m. on the 28th June, 1956.

1st June, 1956.

To each Member of the Grangegorman
Mental Hospital Board.

Re: PORTRANE MENTAL HOSPITAL.

On 21st April, 1955, the Board unanimously approved of a proposal to obtain a supply of electricity for Portrane Mental Hospital from the Electricity Supply Board; the terms on which the supply would be given required the Joint Board to construct a sub-station and lease it to the Electricity Supply Board for one hundred years at a nominal rent.

On 20th October last I reported to the Board that the rent proposed for the sub-station was one shilling a year.

The sub-station has been completed and it occupies a plot measuring 24 feet by 14 feet in the boiler house yard at Portrane Mental Hospital. I propose to enter into an agreement with the Electricity Supply Board for a lease of that

plot for a term of one hundred years at a rent of one shilling a year. Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946, requires that formal notice of a proposal to dispose of land shall be sent by post to each member of the Board. The section also provides :—

- (i) That at the first meeting of the Board held after the expiration of ten clear days of the notice the Board may resolve that the disposal shall not be carried out or that it shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the resolution.
- (ii) If the Board do not pass a resolution to the above effect the disposal may, with the consent of the Minister, be carried out.
- (iii) If the Board resolves that the disposal shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the resolution in Paragraph (i) hereof the disposal may, with the consent of the Minister, be carried out in accordance with those terms.
- (iv) If the Board resolves that the disposal shall not be carried out it shall not be carried out.

T. O'BROIN,

Manager.

The foregoing report, which was sent by post to each member of the Board on the 1st June, 1956, was unanimously approved on the motion of Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Cahill.

E. M. MURRAY,

Chief Clerk.

WILLIAM J. COLMAN,

Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,

Chief R.M.S.

FALCONER, DUBLIN.

*Report No. 264.**28th June, 1956.***Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.****SPECIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Special Building Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 28th day of June, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the chair. Also present:—Alderman Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D., Councillors James Andrews, C. M. Byrne, James Carroll, P.C., Bernard Conway, William Lawless, P. McCarthy, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, P.C., William Chase, Liam Gaynor, Anthony Lalor, Roland Roulston and John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

AGENDA

"To consider the Architect's report dated 19th June, 1956, on the new residence for the Medical Superintendent at Portrane."

87 Merrion Square,
Dublin.

19th June, 1956.

The Chief Clerk,
Grangegorman Mental Hospital,
Dublin.

*Re: NEW RESIDENCE FOR MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT
PORTRANE.*

Dear Sir,

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 15th instant enclosing an extract from a report submitted by the Visiting Committee.

I am disappointed to learn that the Committee does not consider the house to be good value for the outlay. The method of construction, thickness of walls and constructive timbers are more substantial than is normally found in domestic work.

The cubic content of the house is 34,700 cubic feet which, priced at 3/6d. per cubic foot amounts to £8,972 0s. 0d. without taking into account the costs for drainage, water supply and central heating. The new Units were priced at 3/- per cubic foot exclusive of Site Works, Drainage, Water Supplies, Central Heating and Electrical Services. It will be seen, therefore, that the house is reasonably priced, particularly when the high wages payable at Portrane are taken into account.

The flooring boards were selected deal in narrow widths and were pressure impregnated by the Tanalising process necessary at Portrane on account of the incidence of wood-worm and rot infestation. The treatment had the effect of increasing the shrinkage of the soft fibres of the wood; thereby creating the impression that the boards were of poor quality. I had considered at the time that it was more prudent to preserve the floors against wood-worm attack than to leave them exposed and risk the possibility of replacement at a later stage. Deal floors in houses are frequently covered with fitted carpets and if such carpeting is not used the uncarpeted portions are covered with linoleum, which is more easily kept clean than stained boards.

I had complained to the suppliers about the flooring and they explained that the boards were the best available and that the Tanalising treatment resulted in the 'ribbing' effect and in consequence, they were not in a position at the time, to provide any better quality flooring. In order, however, to avoid any criticism the suppliers were prepared

at their own expense, to sand down the flooring so as to leave it smooth; this, I would not permit as it would have reduced the thickness of the floor and worn off the greater portion of the preservative. As an alternative, I suggested that an allowance be made to the Board, which would go towards the purchase of suitable linoleum. This arrangement has been agreed and I await estimates for the work.

The doors used are of the flush type and, in my opinion, are more pleasing in appearance than the panelled type; furthermore, such doors are less likely to shrink. There is no doubt that if panelled doors were installed, their joints would have opened and no amount of filling and painting would remedy the inevitable expansion and contraction which is caused by climatic conditions and accentuated by Central Heating.

The door furniture used is of stainless steel and is more expensive than similar patterns in other metals. The locks used were manufactured by Messrs. Lips of Holland and are generally considered too expensive for domestic use.

The bath is a standard pattern of Irish manufacture and I understand, that the complaint refers to its narrowness at the bottom, but if the Board so wishes, the bath could be removed and replaced with one of foreign manufacture; the cost of removal and replacement would, of course, be considerable.

The positioning of the radiators in the hall and porch are part of the design and I regret that this should be a cause for complaint on the ground that they detract from the appearance of the house.

The shrinking of the staircase string from the wall and the skirtings to the upper rooms are not abnormal; in the latter case, the lagged heating pipes are located behind the skirting. These matters and any others will be attended

to during the maintenance period before the final payments are made.

During the progress of the work, I obtained an estimate from Messrs. Roadstone for the laying of a new tarmac road from the avenue. I considered the cost at £800 to be extravagant and decided not to advise its expenditure. The normal amount of paving was, however, included. I did not wish to lay new tarmac paving on the made ground around the house as it would undoubtedly settle. It would be preferable to allow the ground to consolidate for at least a year.

Yours faithfully,

VINCENT KELLY.

The Architect's report was discussed at length and it was decided unanimously, on the motion of Councillor William Lawless, seconded by Mr. John Smithers, to adopt the report, on the understanding that the defects in the floor boards and shrinkage of skirtings would be made good where necessary during the maintenance period.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

*Report No. 265.**28th June, 1956.***Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.**

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 28th day of June, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present:—Councillors James Andrews, C. M. Byrne, William Lawless, Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER

I, Since my last report of 24th ultimo, milk production was well maintained up to 2nd instant when slight shortages occurred, which have gradually increased and at present the daily shortage is 57 gallons. The shortage is likely to continue for some time and with the present shortage of grass, it is not advisable to purchase dairy cows to make up the deficiency. Arrangements are being made to purchase whole pasteurized milk for such time as the deficiency will last.

The present average daily yield from 231 cows is 2.93 gallons.

The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of last month:—

	<i>This month</i>	<i>Last month</i>
Over 5 gallons	1	5
4—5	18	24
3—4	40	57
2—3	73	68
1—2	64	56
Under 1 gallon	29	26
	<hr/> 231	<hr/> 236

2. The following is a table of (a) purchases, (b) sales of livestock during the month of May.

	<i>Total cost</i>	<i>Average per beast</i>
(a) 2 boars	£106 1 0	£53 0 6
40 sheep	£384 1 0	£9 12 0

(b) 1 calf was sold for £12 10s. 0d.

20 store pigs were sold to Crookaling Sanatorium for £7 each; total £140 0s. 0d. 42 store pigs were transferred to Grangegorman, 6 at £8, 12 at £7, 12 at £6 15s. 0d. and 12 at £6 10s. 0d.; total £291 0s. 0d.

3. *Mastitis*.—The position with regard to mastitis is very satisfactory, no case having occurred on Ballymastone Farm; only one case occurred at Turvey and a few cases at Portrane. All responded to treatment with the exception of the case at Turvey, which did not respond to treatment and the animal was slaughtered. It was found when slaughtered there were other complications with this cow, which was the probable cause of the mastitis treatment having no effect.

4. *T.B. Test.*—The result of the six-monthly test of the dairy herd and young stock carried out in May revealed 43 reactors and 17 doubtful reactors, a percentage of 7.5% and 3.0% respectively. The corresponding figures for the May test of last year were 81 reactors and 26 doubtful reactors. The figures for the current year are a definite improvement on last year's but reveal one disturbing feature, namely a high reaction among the young cattle at Santry Court. The percentage reaction was 10.6 which is high for young cattle bred from T.T. stock. The reaction among the adult stock shows a great improvement in the twelve months and could be due to the precautions adopted at Portrane.

The break-down among the young cattle at Santry Court gives cause for concern and shows that there must be some source of infection on that farm, which must be eliminated. To me it appears that there are two likely sources, namely fodder in the form of purchased old-meadow hay and water. A river, running through the farm, waters about 40 acres of grazing. This river also runs through an adjoining farm, which is heavily stocked and accommodates un-tested cattle for shipping. It is likely that infection is carried down stream and is picked up by the Board's cattle using the river. Arrangements have been made to fence off the river and to lay piped water to this grazing area.

5. *Grass.*—The continued dry weather is having a very adverse effect on the pastures. Grass is burning up on the lighter soils. The heavier pastures, which were manured with nitrolime, have given a very good response and good cuts of grass for silage are available; also sufficient grazing is available on all farms for the dairy stock. All pastures continue to be dressed with nitrolime as they are being cut for silage and grazed off.

6. *Crops*.—The corn crops are making fairly satisfactory growth. All grass seeds have been sown and about 50 acres have been sprayed for weeds. About 70 acres of first and early potatoes have been moulded and six acres have been moulded twice. Thirteen acres suffered severe damage with frost and were retarded in growth from three to four weeks. Indications are that the potato crop, especially the first and second early ones, will be light. It is not expected that the digging of early potatoes will commence before the first week in July.

Silage-making commenced on Turvey and Portrane farms on the 24th ultimo and good progress has been made with the filling of the pits. To date a total of 100 acres have been cut and stored in both pits. So far no hay has been cut.

7. *Santry*.—Grass on this farm has made very satisfactory growth. All pastures have now received a dressing of Sulphate of Ammonia. Fourteen acres have received a complete dressing of fertilisers. Thirty acres have been closed for meadowing.

The present stock at Santry comprises 1 horse, 100 calves, 45 one-year-old heifers, 48 two-year-old heifers and 1 bull.

JAMES HAYES,

Agricultural Manager.

Order. Noted.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER

26th June, 1956.

PORTRANE.

1. The long spell of drought has had an adverse effect on all vegetable crops, particularly those in the seedling stage.

2. *Spring Onions* (6 acres).—I have just completed the weeding of this crop; they are making very little progress and are inclined to bulb prematurely.

Brassicas ($\frac{1}{2}$ acre seed beds) consisting of broccoli, brussel sprouts, Savoy and York cabbage are affected with Downy Mildew. This disease is always worse in dry weather. With the exception of broccoli, the majority of plants, which survive planting out, grow away from the disease. There is no method of control known. A spell of wet weather will do more for the recovery of the plants than anything else.

3. *Root Crops*.—1 acre of early sown swede turnips was thinned out last week and is doing well. A second sowing of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres was made two weeks ago. The first sowing of carrots made slow progress during the dry weather. A further sowing of carrots (1 acre) was made last week. The parsnips crop is up to average and we are weeding and thinning them at the moment.

4. *Spring Cabbage*.—Up to date 7 acres have been cut and delivered to the kitchens. There now remains 6 acres of matured cabbage, and this will be sufficient to keep up a steady supply until the late summer and autumn crops are fit.

5. *Tillage*.—7 acres of ground has been ploughed and tilled in readiness for planting brassicas.

6. *Kitchen Gardens and Grounds*.—Fruit trees have received a fourth application of spray as a preventative against scab and insect pests. Sowing of lettuce, peas, beans, turnips and beet, also flowering biennials, planting out celery and flowering annuals have been made during the past month. The planting of all flower beds and borders on Hospital grounds was completed a few days ago. The

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 26th July, 1956, date of next meeting of the Committee:—

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

Do. Do. E. Timmons.

Mr. Anthony Lalor.

Miss M. C. Ennis.

SANTRY COURT

The Committee had under consideration a report dated 29th May from Mr. Vincent Kelly, Architect, about the cost of demolition of the derelict portion of the mansion at Santry Court, which was estimated to be £600-£900. It was decided unanimously not to proceed with this proposal but to invite tenders by public advertisement for any fittings on the estate not required for the Board's purposes.

E. M. MURRAY

Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,

Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,

Chief B.M.S.

Report No. 266.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 19th day of July, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman) in the Chair. The following members were also present:—

Dublin Corporation Representatives:—Alderman Thomas Byrne, T.D., P.C., Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D., Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Kevin Boland, Roland Burgess, P.C., Mrs. Catherine Byrne, James Carroll, P.C., Bernard Conway, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Denis Larkin, T.D., Dr. Christopher A. Macken, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Senator James Joseph O'Keeffe, P.C., Thomas Stafford, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Mr. William Chase, Mr. John Jones, Mr. Anthony Lalor, Mr. Roland Roulston, Mr. Liam Gaynor, Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, Mr. John Smithers.

Dublin County Council Representatives:—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews, P.C., H. P. Dockrell, T.D., Sean Dunne, T.D., and Miss M. C. Ennis.

Wicklow County Council Representatives:—Councillors C. M. Byrne, W. Lawless and P. McCarthy.

An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. John Cahill.

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 263, 21st June, 1956) were confirmed and signed.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

The following were proposed for election as Chairman: —

Councillor E. Timmons, proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly and seconded by Councillor Gilbert Hughes.

Councillor W. J. Colman, proposed by Councillor Mrs. C. Byrne and seconded by Councillor J. J. O'Keeffe.

A poll was taken in which Councillor Colman received 16 votes and Councillor Timmons 9 votes. Councillor Colman was declared elected Chairman.

The voting was as follows:

For Councillor Timmons: —Councillors K. Boland, G. Hughes, Mrs. Nix, Timmons, J. Andrews, C. M. Byrne, Messrs. Chase, Jones and O'Reilly (9).

For Councillor Colman: —Alderman T. Byrne, Councillors R. Burgess, Mrs. C. Byrne, Carroll, Colman, Conway, Larkin, Senator J. J. O'Keeffe, Mrs. Mulvey, H. P. Dockrell, Dunne, W. Lawless, P. McCarthy, T. Stafford, Mr. A. Lalor and Miss M. C. Ennis (16).

The following were proposed for election as Vice Chairman

Councillor Mrs. C. Byrne, proposed by Councillor Mrs. Mulvey, seconded by Miss M. C. Ennis.

Councillor C. M. Byrne, proposed by Councillor W. Lawless, seconded by Councillor D. Larkin.

A poll was taken in which Councillor Mrs. C. Byrne received 9 votes and Councillor C. M. Byrne received 17 votes.

Councillor C. M. Byrne was declared elected Vice Chairman.

The voting was as follows: —

For Councillor Mrs. Catherine Byrne:—Alderman T. Byrne, Councillors Roland Burgess, Mrs. C. Byrne, W. J. Colman, Senator J. J. O'Keeffe, Mrs. M. Mulvey, H. P. Dockrell, Mr. A. Lalor and Miss M. C. Ennis (9).

For Councillor C. M. Byrne:—Councillors Boland, Carroll, Conway, Hughes, Larkin, Mrs. Nix, Stafford, Timmons, Andrews, Sean Dunne, C. M. Byrne, W. Lawless, P. McCarthy, Messrs. Chase, Jones, Smithers and O'Reilly (17).

APPOINTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

On the proposal of Councillor J. J. O'Keeffe, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Nix, the out-going members of the Agricultural Committee (except Mr. Patrick O'Reilly, who was no longer a member of the Board) were re-appointed unanimously to hold office until the date of the next Annual Meeting of the Board.

The following members were proposed to fill the remaining vacant position on the Agricultural Committee, viz.: —

Councillor Sean Dunne, proposed by Councillor William Lawless, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Mulvey.

Mr. R. Roulston, proposed by Councillor P. J. Birmingham, seconded by Councillor D. Delaney.

Mr. J. J. Jones, proposed by Councillor K. Boland, seconded by Councillor G. Hughes.

A poll was taken in which Councillor Sean Dunne received 17 votes, Mr. R. Roulston 5 votes and Mr. J. J. Jones 9 votes. Councillor Sean Dunne was declared elected to the vacancy. The voting was as follows:—

For Councillor Dunne:—Councillors R. Burgess, Mrs. C. Byrne, Carroll, Colman, Conway, Larkin, Senator J. J. O'Keeffe, Stafford, Mrs. Mulvey, Dockrell, Dunne, C. M. Byrne, W. Lawless, P. McCarthy, Messrs. Lalor, Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis (17).

For Mr. R. Roulston:—Alderman T. Byrne, Councillors P. J. Bermingham, Delaney, Messrs. Roulston and Gaynor (5).

For Mr. J. Jones:—Alderman Mrs. C. Lynch, Councillors K. Boland, G. Hughes, Mrs. K. Nix, Timmons, Andrews, Messrs. Chase, Jones and O'Reilly (9).

The following are members of the Agricultural committee as constituted under the foregoing resolutions:—

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman)

„ James Andrews.

„ C. M. Byrne.

„ Gilbert Hughes.

„ William Lawless.

„ Eugene Timmons.

„ Sean Dunne.

Mr. William Chase.

Miss M. C. Ennis.

Mr. Anthony Lalor.

Mr. Thomas O'Reilly.

Mr. John Smithers.

SPECIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

On the proposal of Councillor Mrs. Nix, seconded by Councillor Mrs. C. Byrne, the out-going members of the Special Building Committee (except Councillor P. D. Finnegan, who was no longer a member of the Board) were re-appointed unanimously to hold office until the date of the next Annual Meeting of the Board.

To fill the vacancy on this Committee, Councillor Thomas Stafford was proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly and seconded by R. Roulston; Councillor H. P. Dockrell was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Mulvey and seconded by Mr. Anthony Lalor. A poll was taken and Councillor Stafford was declared elected to the vacancy by 19 votes to 10. The voting was as follows:—

For Councillor Stafford:—Alderman T. Byrne, Councillors Bermingham, Boland, Carroll, Conway, Delaney, Hughes, Larkin, Mrs. Nix, Stafford, Timmons, Andrews, Lawless, Messrs. Chase, Jones, Roulston, Gaynor, O'Reilly and Smithers (19).

For Councillor Dockrell:—Alderman Mrs. Celia Lynch, Councillors, R. Burgess, Mrs. C. Byrne, Colman, Senator J. J. O'Keeffe, Mrs. Mulvey, H. P. Dockrell, C. M. Byrne, Mr. A. Lalor and Miss M. C. Ennis (10).

The following are members of the Special Building Committee as constituted under the foregoing resolutions:—

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

“ James Andrews.

“ William Lawless.

Councillor Mrs. Kathleen Nix.
 " Patrick McCarthy.
 " Eugene Timmons.
 " Thomas Stafford.
 Mr. John Cahill.
 Miss M. C. Ennis.
 Mr. John Jones.
 Mr. Thomas O'Reilly.
 Mr. John Smithers.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 30th June, 1956, was submitted as follows: —

On Hospital Register at 31st

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
May, 1956	1,756	2,084	3,840
Admitted during month ...	76	71	147
	<hr/> 1,832	<hr/> 2,155	<hr/> 3,987

Males Females Total

Discharged			
during month	52	66	118
Died during			
month ...	15	4	19
Escaped do. —	—	—	—
	<hr/> 67	<hr/> 70	<hr/> 137
Remaining on Hospital Register	1,765	2,085	3,850
Absent on trial and escape	30	32	62
Remaining in residence ...	<hr/> 1,735	<hr/> 2,053	<hr/> 3,788

DISTRIBUTION

In Grangegorman	...	765	1,223	1,988
In Portrane	...	770	830	1,800
Total number resident as above		1,735	2,053	3,788

CHARGEABILITY

City of Dublin	...	2,884
County Dublin	...	508
County Wicklow	...	337
Criminal Lunatics	...	39
Non-district patients	...	20
Total		3,788

SPECIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed and Councillor James Andrews seconded the adoption of Report No. 264 of the Meeting of the Special Building Committee held on the 28th day of June, 1956. *Passed unanimously.*

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Councillor William Lawless proposed and Mr. Anthony Lalor seconded the adoption of Report No. 265 of the Meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 28th day of June, 1956. *Passed unanimously.*

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN

4th July, 1956.

1. An inspection was carried out at Grangegorman Mental Hospital on Wednesday, 4th July.

2. Under the guidance of Dr. O'Sullivan we first of all went through No. 22. The improvements in St. Clare's and other Wards are to be commended. The curtains give a brighter tone to the Wards and floors covered with Linoleum are very much brighter looking than those uncovered. All the patients looked clean and comfortable and those to whom we spoke were quite satisfied with everything. The patients who are receiving Insulin treatment were just being put back into the Ward as we went through and tidying up was in progress, with the aid of several patients.

3. In the female T.B. section some of the patients were busy doing very fine embroidery.

4. Mr. Vero accompanied us to No. 5 Male Hospital. Everything in the Wards was in first class order.

5. When we visited the new division, No. 10, we noticed the roof was leaking in one of the dormitories. As it was raining heavily we saw the water had seeped through the roof and was running down the wall by the bed of one of the patients. This ought to be seen to at once.

6. In the kitchen of St. Patrick's division, a new boiler has been supplied which is inadequate. We have been informed by Mr. Judge that this Boiler is only a temporary one replacing one which leaks and will be replaced by one of the proper required size at an early date.

7. In the main Dining Hall we saw Refractory patients from No. 1 and 3 Divisions at Dinner. The patients were very quiet, and all seemed to be enjoying a well cooked nourishing meal.

We had a few complaints about the Potatoes, but as the old Potatoes are nearly finished we did not mind these complaints.

8. The Tailor finds it difficult to cut the thick material with Scissors. We have consulted Mr. Murphy and Mr. Murray and think it would be desirable to purchase a machine for cutting out Suits and also one for the Shoemakers Shop.

9. As Wednesday was visitors day, we inspected the Visiting Hall, as we were told it is sometimes overcrowded. We did not find it overcrowded, but Wednesday is not such a popular visiting day as Sunday, and Mr. O'Reilly and Mr. Chase decided to go there on a Sunday to see just how overcrowded the Hall really is.

10. The last place we inspected was the Male Therapy Department where we found patients very busily engaged and seemingly fond of their work. Some were making Deck Chairs, Ironing Boards and Stools. Others were framing pictures and printing. All the work was of a high standard.

We thank Dr. O'Sullivan and Mr. Vero for their kindness in showing us around.

CATHERINE BYRNE.

THOMAS O'REILLY.

WILLIAM CHASE.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE

6th July, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane on Thursday, July 6th, and were very pleased to note the well kept lawns and flower beds in front of the main entrance. Our first call was at the new Children's Unit, No. 8 Division. The patients there appear to be very happy and contented in the new surroundings and there is no doubt that the Board can feel very satisfied with the building and equipping of this unit. The dormitory, Bathing and Sanitary accommodation and the general surroundings leave nothing to be desired in the way of catering for this type of patient.

2. On visiting No. 10 Male Division, which is one of the new buildings, we were very pleased to note the great improvement in the general conditions as compared with the old temporary buildings No. 9 where we were informed most of the patients were transferred from.

3. The so-called temporary buildings, No. 9 Division, do not appear to be suitable for housing our patients and early consideration might be given to their demolition.

4. We were very pleased to note the general organization of the new buildings, the patients seem quite happy and the pantry and food distribution seems to be working very well. We noticed that a corner of the road round No. 10 was flooded and suggest that steps be taken immediately to eliminate the cause.

5. We made an inspection of the new residence for the Medical Superintendent and while agreeing that the building is structurally sound we cannot agree that the materials used nor the size of the building justifies the cost. The flooring of the two main rooms off the front hall appear to be of inferior quality timber for a house costing such a high figure.

6. Our best thanks are due to Dr. Aird for his courtesy and help.

WILLIAM LAWLESS.
JOHN SMITHERS.
GILBERT HUGHES.

Orders made thereon:

Paragraphs 1 to 4: Noted.

Paragraph 5: Referred to Manager for report.

Paragraph 6: Noted..

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to 16th August, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board:—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman.

" G. Hughes.

" T. Stafford.

" W. Lawless.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman.

" Mrs. C. Byrne.

" Mrs. Mulvey.

" Mrs. Nix.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

13th July, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on the 9th instant 3,800 patients, viz.:—

	Males	Females	Total
Grangegorman ...	772	1,229	2,001
Portrane ...	959	840	1,799
	<hr/> 1,731	<hr/> 2,069	<hr/> 3,800

as compared with:—

9th July, 1955 ...	1,774	2,083	3,857
9th July, 1954 ...	1,741	2,037	3,778
9th July, 1953 ...	1,682	2,063	3,745
9th July, 1952 ...	1,622	1,979	3,601

this year's number being 57 less than on the corresponding date last year and 199 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. At last meeting I reported an accident to male patient G. H. (9047), aged 71 years, who fell while getting out of bed in No. 6 Division at Portrane and fractured the right femur. The patient was transferred to Grangegorman for treatment on the 14th May but his condition gradually deteriorated and he died on the 11th June.

An inquest was held on the 26th June by the City Coroner with a jury. The jury found that the patient died "from shock and myo-cardial failure following hypertension and generalised arterio-sclerosis accelerated by a fracture of his femur received when he fell in No. 6 Ward in Portrane Mental Hospital on the 12th May, 1956." The jury expressed the opinion that the occurrence was accidental and that no blame attached to the Board's nursing staff.

4. *Accidents to Patients, Grangegorman.*—On the 13th ultimo female patient F.B. (5831), aged 84 years, was pushed by another patient in No. 18 Division and fell to the floor sustaining a fissure fracture of the great trochanter.

On the 20th ultimo female patient A.R. (10166) was noticed to limp slightly and an X-ray examination showed a fracture of a chip of bone from the tibia. There was no history of an accident. The patient had been restless and confused since admission on the 12th ultimo and may have accidentally struck her ankle.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

5. *Accidents to Patients, Portrane.*—On the 9th ultimo female patient M.D. (42815), aged 88 years, slipped on the floor of No. 8 Division and sustained a colles fracture of the left wrist.

On the 12th ultimo male patient L.F. (35896) was knocked down in No. 7 Division by another patient, who accidentally brushed against him. The patient fell and sustained a fracture of the right radius.

The Portrane Medical Superintendent assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

Male patient C.R. (9894) a voluntary patient failed to return to Grangegorman from pass on the 12th ultimo.

Male patient J.O.S. (9185), a voluntary patient, failed to return to Grangegorman from pass on the 22nd ultimo.

Male patient W.B. (10011) escaped from the grounds of No. 7 Division at Grangegorman on the 23rd ultimo. He was found at his sister's house the next day and brought back to the hospital.

Male patient E.M. (10129) escaped when going to the Canteen at Grangegorman with other patients from No. 10 Division on the 30th ultimo. He was found at his sister's home a few hours later and brought back to the hospital.

Male patient L.Q. (10164) escaped from the grounds of No. 10 Division at Grangegorman on the 17th ultimo. He was apprehended by Gardai in Co. Wicklow some hours later and brought back to the hospital.

The Chief R.M.S. informs me that none of the three last named patients was regarded as requiring constant supervision and he is satisfied that there was no negligence on the part of any member of the staff in connection with their escapes.

7. *Accidents to Staff, Grangegorman.*—Nurse D.D. fell in the bathroom of the T.B. Annexe on the 6th instant and injured his left shoulder. He has been off duty since that date.

On the 26th ultimo attendant M.H. was struck on the face by a patient. He sustained a fracture of the nose. He was off duty until the 5th July.

A number of other accidents to members of the nursing staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

8. *Accidents to Staff, Portrane.*—Nurse P.C. has been off duty since the 22nd ultimo with an injury to two fingers of his hand sustained while playing hurling in the hospital.

Attendant S.M. slipped and fell on the stairs of the Nurses' Home on the 12th ultimo and injured her left ankle. She has been off duty since that date.

Nurse G.C. was off duty from the 26th to 28th ultimo with an injury to his left ankle sustained while playing football in a local tournament.

A number of other accidents to members of the nursing staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

9. The new Children's Unit at Portrane was opened during the past month and eleven juvenile patients have been transferred to it so far.

10. On the recommendation of the Chief Engineer, the following tenders have been accepted for sundry maintenance works at Portrane, as follows:—

Cunningham Bros., 15 Temple Bar—for painting farm buildings at Portrane and Ballymastone, in the sum of £365.

Spray Painters Ltd., 138 Capel Street—for painting the general dining hall, general kitchen and steaming room, in the sum of £554 6s. 0d.

Roofing Contractors, Ltd., 19 South Gloucester Street, for replacing the roof covering on part of the A.M.O.'s quarters in "Ruberoid," for the sum of £78.

South of Ireland Asphalt Co. Ltd., 7 Lower Abbey Street—for laying asphalt on the roofs of two sanitary annexes at No. 10 Female Division, for the sum of £178 18s. 0d.

11. Offers were recently invited for one Winder-Steed grass loader, which is no longer required for use on the farm. Only one offer was received viz. £200 from Provincial Crop Driers Ltd. and it has been accepted on the recommendation of the Agricultural Manager.

12. Quotations were invited at the end of June for a supply of pasteurised milk to Grangegorman to supplement supplies from Portrane Farm and the tender of Mr. R. P. Comerford, Ben Edair Dairy at 2/3 per gallon has been accepted. One other offer was received at the same price and two offers at 2/6 per gallon.

13. On 17th May I reported to the Board that the three steam boilers on the Male Side at Grangegorman had been found to be past their useful life and that the Board's Consulting Engineer had recommended their replacement by three new Lancashire boilers at an estimated cost of £16,880.

The Consulting Engineer has since informed me that efficiency tests carried out on the Lancashire boilers on the *Female Side*, indicate that super-economic boilers would be 10 per cent. more efficient than a Lancashire installation and that this difference in efficiency would represent a saving in fuel consumption of £1,200—£1,400 per annum. Accordingly, he now recommends the installation of three super-economic boilers on the *Male Side* boilerhouse at an estimated cost of £18,600. Apart from the saving in operating costs the super-economic boilers will permit of a better arrangement of the boilerhouse, leaving more space for firing and maintenance.

I am submitting this recommendation to the Minister for Health for consideration by his technical advisers.

14. In August last the Chief Engineer, Portrane, reported considerable pollution of water at Tonlegee reservoir and he recommended the construction of a bye-pass drain to take all contaminated water clear of the reservoir. The approval of the Minister for Health has been obtained to the appointment of a Consulting Engineer to prepare plans for this scheme and I will report again on the matter when the plans are received.

15. A sum of £800 was provided in the current year's estimates for road re-surfacing at Grangegorman. This sum has been almost expended on re-surfacing the roads from the New Stores, via Female Boiler House, Laundry, Female Canteen and Carpenter's Shop to the corner of the Workroom at the Nurses'

Home. I have authorised the Clerk of Works to spend a further £90 to continue the re-surfacing to the junction of the high and low roads at the further corner of the Workroom. This additional expense will be charged to the sum provided in the Estimates for contingencies.

16. The Minister for Local Government has sanctioned the borrowing of £10,500 from the Board's Treasurer for the purpose of defraying the cost of sundry furniture and equipment for Grangegorman and Portrane. This loan was approved by the Board at its meeting on 17th May last.

17. For a considerable time past, six Clinical Clerks have been employed at Grangegorman for periods of six months at a time. The approved rate of remuneration for these posts is £312 per annum plus temporary bonus and emoluments of furnished apartments, rations, fuel, light, laundry and attendance.

I have been informed that the Minister for Health is agreeable to these offices being re-designated as offices of House Physician with remuneration at the following rates:—

£350 per annum for the first period of six months.									
£400	"	"	"	"	second	"	"	"	"
£450	"	"	"	"	third	"	"	"	"
£500	"	"	"	"	fourth	"	"	"	"

and for any subsequent period with emoluments as at present and 1955 temporary bonus.

The change in designation and the new rates of remuneration have been adopted in other district mental hospitals and I propose to apply it in this service subject to the consent of the Board.

18. I have received an application for an increase in the remuneration of the Farmyard Foreman, Tillage Foreman, Portrane and Herds and Assistant Herds at Ballymastone and Turvey Farms, on the grounds that these officers have not benefited from recent flat increases to the same extent as subordinate farm workers. This is due to the fact that the flat increases affected the payments to subordinate workers for Sunday overtime, whereas the senior officers named are required to work every second Sunday without overtime pay. I have agreed to an increase of 2/6 a week from 1st September, 1955, in settlement of this claim, subject to the consent of the Board and the approval of the Minister for Health.

19. It has been found necessary recently to remove from office for misconduct a Deputy Charge Male Nurse attached to the Grangegorman staff. He has been re-employed as a labourer. As there is no vacancy for a permanent labourer at Grangegorman, I would ask the Board's consent to an increase of one in the authorised number of permanent labouring posts. There will be a corresponding reduction in the number of temporary employments.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO
BOARD.

19th July, 1956.

20. Since 17th June, 70 male and 74 female patients were admitted, total 144. One hundred and thirty eight of these were chargeable patients, of whom, 55 were temporary, 55 were voluntary and 28 were persons of unsound mind. There were also admitted 4 Private Patients (2 voluntary and 2 temporary) and 2 patients for special treatment from Ballinasloe Mental Hospital under Section 208 of the Mental Treatment Act, 1945.

21. On 1st May female patient M.W. (9242) slipped off the edge of her bed in Grangegorman. The patient was examined by a medical officer and no sign of injury was discovered. On 3rd May the patient developed signs of pulmonary congestion. The nurse attending her noticed abnormal movement of the right thigh and a further examination revealed a fracture of the lower end of right femur. The patient died on 8th May. An inquest was held by the City Coroner with a jury on 12th instant and the following verdict was returned.

"M W died on 8th May, 1956, in Grangegorman Mental Hospital from oedema and congestion of the lungs with possible myocardial degeneration possibly accelerated by fracture of the right femur. We exonerate the nursing staff from all blame."

22. On 12th April last I reported to the Board an accident to female patient T.G. (32874), aged 80 years, who fell when getting into bed at Portrane on 27th March and fractured the right femur. The patient was transferred to Grangegorman for treatment but died on 2nd instant. An inquest was held by the City Coroner with a jury and the following verdict was returned:—

"T. . . . G. . . . died in Grangegorman Mental Hospital on 2nd July, 1956, from congestion of the lungs and myocardial disease. The fracture of her thigh bone received at Portrane on 27th March, 1956, did not contribute directly to her death. We exonerate the nursing staff from all blame."

23. With reference to the Inspection carried out by Councillor Mrs. C. Byrne and Messrs. O'Reilly and Chase at Grangegorman on 4th instant, I have to report:—

Item 5.—The leak in the roof of No. 10 Division was due to a small defect in the asphalt covering which has been made good.

Item 8.—Prices are being obtained for a suitable cutting machine for the Tailor's Shop.

24. Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Fossett and Sons to give a circus performance at Portrane to-day, the cost of which will be charged to Canteen a/c. It is hoped to arrange for a performance at Grangegorman later in the season.

25. An agreement has been made recently between the Federation of Builders and the appropriate Trade Unions for an increase of 1½d. an hour, with effect from 1st July, 1956, in the rates paid to building tradesmen and labourers in the Dublin area. It has been the practice to pay the agreed local rates to such workers and I would ask the Board's consent to the application of this increase to its employees. The categories affected and the new hourly rates are:—

New hourly rates

Bricklayers, carpenters, plasterers, plumbers and slaters	...	4s. 3½d.
Painters	... ..	4s. 3d.
Stonecutters and woodcutting machinists	... ..	4s. 2½d.
Glaziers	... ..	4s. 1½d.
Labourers	... ..	3s. 7½d.

I would ask the Board also to authorise the expenditure of a sum of £1,100 in excess of the amount provided in the estimate of expenses for the current financial year, to meet the cost of this increase.

26. I have just received from Messrs. Kenny and Partners, Consulting Engineers, a report on the tenders received for the installation of a power point in 73 staff houses at Portrane. The lowest tender is as follows:—

V.I.R. cable in conduit	£284 5s 0d.
or	
Plastic Sheathed Cable	£189 5s 0d
or	
T.R.S. cable with timber tubing and casing	£162 4s 6d

The Consulting Engineer has recommended acceptance of the tender for the second type of installation.

T. O'BROIN,

Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:—

*Paragraph 17.—*Proposed by Mr. Anthony Lalor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. C. Byrne: "That the Board consents to the increased remuneration proposed for House Physicians." *Passed unanimously.*

*Paragraph 18.—*Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. John Smithers, "That the Board consents to the increases proposed in the remuneration of the Farmyard Foreman, Tillage Foreman, Herds and Assistant Herds." *Passed unanimously.*

*Paragraph 19.—*Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor B. Conway, "That the Board consents to an increase of one in the number of permanent labourers authorised for Grangegorman." *Passed, Mr. John Jones dissenting.*

*Paragraph 25.—*Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. B. Conway, "That the Board consents to the increases proposed in the rates payable to building tradesmen and labourers and authorizes the expenditure of a sum of £1,100 in excess of the amount provided in the Estimate for the financial year 1956/57, in paying this increase. *Passed unanimously.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters dated 27th June from the Corporation of Dublin, the Dublin County Council and the Wicklow County Council, advising the names of the persons appointed to represent them on the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board during the ensuing year, viz.: —

DUBLIN CORPORATION REPRESENTATIVES (28)

Alderman Thomas Byrne, T.D., P.C., 46 Braemor Road, Rathmines, Dublin.

Alderman Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D., 156 Botanic Road, Glasnevin, Dublin.

Councillor Patrick J. Birmingham, 10 Norword Park, Sandford Road, Dublin.

Councillor Kevin Boland, 16 Cill Eanna, Raheny, Dublin.

Councillor Roland Burgess, P.C., 98 Walkinstown Road, Dublin.

Councillor Mrs. Catherine Byrne, 5 Seafort Terrace, Sandymount, Dublin.

Councillor James Carroll, P.C., "Manhattan," 36 Lower Dodder Road, Rathfarnham.

Councillor William J. Colman, P.C., F.W.C.F., 6 Garville Road, Rathgar, Dublin.

Councillor Bernard Conway, 7a Countess Markievicz House, Townsend Street, Dublin.

Councillor Denis Delaney, 13 Aughrim Street, Dublin.

Councillor Gilbert Hughes, 24 Cill Eanna, Howth Road, Raheny, Dublin.

Councillor Con Lehane, 1 Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin.

Councillor Denis Larkin, T.D., 10 Marino Park, Fairview, Dublin.

Councillor Dr. Christopher A. Macken, 329 North Circular Road, Dublin.

Councillor Daniel Joseph Morris, 30 Leinster Avenue, North Strand, Dublin.

Councillor Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., 62 Cabra Road, Dublin.

Councillor Senator James Joseph O'Keefe, P.C., 138 Sundrive Road, Crumlin.

Councillor Thomas Stafford, P.C., 60 North Strand Road, Dublin.

Councillor Eugene Timmons, P.C., 42 Copeland Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin.

Mr. John Cahill, 30 Croagh Patrick Road, Dublin.

Mr. William Chase, 30 Cabra Park, Dublin.

Mr. John Jones, 1 Hughes Road, Sth., Walkinstown, Dublin.

Mr. Anthony Lalor, 103 Weirview Drive, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin.

Mr. Roland Roulston, 72 Home Farm Road, Drumcondra, Dublin.

Mr. M. McStay, 20 Shanglass Road, Whitehall, Dublin.

Mr. Liam Gaynor, 117 Home Farm Road, Drumcondra, Dublin.

Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, 283 Clontarf Road, Dublin.

Mr. John Smithers, 36 Churchtown Great, Milltown, Co. Dublin.

DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

(5)

Councillor Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., Main Street, Dundrum, Co. Dublin.

Councillor James Andrews, P.C., Main Street, Rush, Co. Dublin.

Councillor H. P. Dockrell, T.D., " Birnam," Adelaide Road, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

Councillor Sean Dunne, T.D., 46 Wolfe Tone Sq., N. Bray, Co. Wicklow.

Miss M. C. Ennis, Spring Hill, Garristown, Co. Dublin.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

REPRESENTATIVES (3)

Councillor C. M. Byrne, Ballykillavane, Glenealy, Co. Wicklow.

Councillor W. Lawless, Cooldross, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow.

Councillor P. McCarthy, 43 Rory O'Connor Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.

Order: Noted.
E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

WILLIAM J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

*Report No. 267.***Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.**

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 26th day of July, 1956, Councillor C. M. Byrne (Vice Chairman) in the Chair. Also present:—Councillors James Andrews, Sean Dunne, T.D., Gilbert Hughes, William Lawless, Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Thomas O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Eonis.

Mr. Ronald Roulston was also in attendance.

An apology for non-attendance was received from the Chairman (Councillor W. J. Colman).

The election of Chairman and Vice Chairman was deferred to next meeting.

**REPORT OF ACTING AGRICULTURAL
MANAGER**

26th July, 1956.

1. Since the last report of the 28th ultimo, milk supplies have not improved much and it was necessary to continue buying milk. At present 36 gallons daily are being bought for use at Grangegorman. Full supplies are available for the Portrane Hospital. The shortage is likely to continue until well into August.

The present daily average yield from 238 cows is 2.14 gallons.

The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of last month.

	<i>This month</i>		<i>Last month</i>	
Over 5 gallons	...	1	1	1
4—5	...	16	18	18
3—4	...	43	46	46
2—3	...	74	73	73
1—2	...	77	64	64
Under 1 gallon	...	27	29	29
Total	...	238	231	231

2. The following is a table of (a) purchases, (b) sales of livestock during the month of June:—

(a)	Total Cost	Average per Beast
39 sheep	£246 15 0	£6 6 0
30 store pigs for Grange- gorman	£210 0 0	£7 0 0

(b) 21 calves were sold for the following prices:—

1 @ £6.8.0, 2 @ £6.10.0, 3 @ £7.0.0, 4 @ £7.10.0,
1 @ £8.0.0, 2 @ £9.0.0, 2 @ £10.0.0, 1 @ £10.10.0,
2 @ £12.0.0 and 3 @ £13.0.0; total £189.18.0.

12 store pigs were transferred to Grangegorman
@ £7.10.0 each, total £90.

20 store pigs were sold to Crooksling Sanatorium
@ £7.5.0 each, total £145.

1 fat sow was sold on the Dublin market for
£24.7.3.

1 boar was sold through the Dublin Corporation
Abattoir for £15.2.8.

3. *Mastitis*: The position with regard to mastitis is satisfactory. A few cases occurred at Ballymastone and Portrane. All were treated and responded without exception.

4. *Grass*: With the recent damp weather grass made excellent growth on all farms and there is a general easing off in the application of nitrogenous manures. It appears that a greater area of land will be available for hay-making than was anticipated earlier on.

5. *Crops*: Potato digging started on the 9th instant and the first deliveries were made to the Hospitals on the 10th. To date, I estimate that 5 acres of Epicures have been dug and the average yield is calculated at approx. 6.9 tons. The whole crop has been sprayed once and is now receiving a second application. The silage pit at Portrane is now sealed off and the one at Turvey is being kept open and will take a few more acres of grass. Both pits are well filled. The total area ensiled to date is 143 acres.

Hay-making commenced on the 30th ultimo and so far approx. 80 acres have been cut, of which 72 have been saved and cocked. The crop is not a bad one considering the long spell of drought during the growing season. Bad weather slowed up the work earlier on, but during the last few days good progress was made. The new machinery purchased i.e. a power drive tedder and a tractor sweep have been put to use and appear to be a great advantage.

6. With reference to paragraph 4 of the inspection report of the 31st May re provision of storage accommodation for potatoes at Portrane, I wish to report that examination of this matter is deferred until the return of the Agricultural Manager from annual leave.—

7. *Santry Court*: Haymaking has commenced on this farm. A further 14 acres were closed off for hay, making a total of 44 acres. Grazing is in good

supply but it may be necessary to give further dressings of sulphate of ammonia to some of the fields as they are grazed off.

Hoose is becoming prevalent among the younger animals and as a precaution 20 calves have been removed to Turvey, where they are put on clean pastures by day. They are housed by night and are getting meals. The worst cases left at Santry have been injected by the Veterinary Surgeon and their condition is being watched very carefully.

The total stock on the farm is 88 calves, 45 yearlings, 47 two-year olds and one horse.

THOMAS A. VAUGHAN,

Acting Agricultural Manager.

Orders made thereon:

Par. 1. Enquire of other Mental Hospitals as to number of patients and employees engaged on Farm Work.

Pars. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Noted.

Par 7. Mr. R. Roulston was thanked for his verbal report concerning the pollution of the River running through Santry Court.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER, PORTRANE.

26th July, 1956.

1. Vegetable Fields: All young crops are making satisfactory progress. The weeding and thinning of 6 acres onions; 4 acres parsnips; 3 acres swede turnips and 1 acre of carrots is completed. 4 acres broccoli; 3½ acres of Autumn cabbage; 1½ acres Savoy cabbage and 1½ acres brussel sprouts have been planted during the past four weeks. At the moment ground is being prepared for Savoy cabbage, broccoli and leeks.

2. *Crops in Season:* $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres cabbage; $\frac{1}{2}$ acre Autumn onions also peas, beans, lettuce, scallions and rhubarb.

3. *Kitchen Gardens and Recreation Grounds:* With the exception of red currants, the picking of bush fruit was completed this week. The crop was lighter than last year. The apple, pear and plum crop will be heavier than last year and I expect a better yield. All flower beds are looking well. All established lawns and recreation grounds are in good condition. The newly laid out lawns are looking much better since the recent wet weather. Some of the more recent sown grass plots are very weedy and at the moment we are using a scythe to keep down the weeds. Next year, when the grass is better established, I will treat it with selective weedkiller to eradicate the weeds.

GRANGEGORMAN

4. Work carried out in these gardens consisted of picking peas, beans and fruit; prepared and planting leeks and brussel sprouts; sowing carrots, lettuce and parsley; weeding and thinning onions.

All flower beds and borders are in good condition.

SANTRY GARDENS

5. Work carried out in these gardens consisted chiefly of picking fruit; care of tomato houses; scuffling walks and spraying fruit trees.

A. WOLOHAN,

Head Gardener.

Noted. Committee recommend that the Male Nurse in charge of Garden Workers should be classified as a Deputy Charge.

FARM INSPECTION REPORT

18th July, 1956.

1. Accompanied by our Farmyard Foreman, Mr. T. Vaughan, we first visited Turvey and Ballymastone. All stock were out on pasture and they looked quite healthy. Crops were making progress due to recent rainfall. The recent T.B. test, we were informed, showed 17 doubtfuls and these were isolated, awaiting a further test.

2. In the farmyard we saw the recently converted piggery which is well constructed. In the main piggery we saw many sows with litters and we were pleased to learn that the temporary set back in pig production has been arrested.

3. We visited the Gardens with Mr. Wolohan, Head Gardener. The fruit crops look promising and the gardens presented a clean and tidy appearance.

4. Time, unfortunately, did not permit us to visit the 40 acres of vegetable gardens but we were pleased to learn that the vegetable crops are doing well.

W. J. COLMAN.

E. TIMMONS.

A. LALOR.

M. C. ENNIS.

Order. Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 23rd August, 1956, date of next meeting of the Committee: —

Councillor C. M. Byrne.

„ Sean Dunne, T.D.

„ Gilbert Hughes.

Mr. William Chase.

A list to be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee setting out the order in which members were appointed to the Visiting Committee last year.

SANTRY COURT

Particulars were submitted of six tenders received for materials at Santry Court. The Manager was authorised to dispose of any articles not required for use in the Board's Hospitals.

The Manager was requested to consider inviting tenders for demolition of Santry Court.

C. M. BYRNE,
Chairman.

K. KEANE,
Acting Chief Clerk.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

Report No. 268.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 16th day of August, 1956, Councillor William J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. The following members were also present:—

City of Dublin Representatives:—Councillor Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Bernard Conway, Gilbert Hughes, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, P.C., William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Liam Gaynor, Thomas O'Reilly and John Smithers.

County Dublin Representatives:—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews, P.C., Sean Dunne, T.D. and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives:—Councillors C. M. Byrne, William Lawless and P. McCarthy.

Apologies were received from Councillor P. J. Birmingham and Mr. R. Roulston for their inability to attend the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 266 of the 19th July, 1956) were confirmed and signed.

CONDOLENCE.

Councillor W. J. Colman proposed and Mr. T. O'Reilly seconded "That we learn with deep regret of the death of Mr. Peadar Doyle, T.D., and we tender to his wife and family our sincerest sympathy."

The resolution was adopted in silence, all present standing.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 31st July, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
On Hospital Register at 30th				
June, 1956	...	1,765	2,085	3,850
Admitted during month	...	74	84	158
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,839	2,169	4,008

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Discharged				
during month	48	55	103	
Died during				
month	6	14	20	
Escaped do.	1	—	1	55
				69
				124
Remaining on Hospital Register		1,784	2,100	3,884
Absent on trial and escape		30	34	64
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Remaining in residence	...	1,754	2,066	3,820

DISTRIBUTION

In Grangegorman	...	775	1,244	2,019
In Portrane	...	979	822	1,801
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total number resident as above		1,754	2,066	3,820

CHARGEABILITY

City of Dublin	...	...	2,905
County Dublin	...	...	515
County Wicklow	...	...	341
Criminal Lunatics	...	...	39
Non-district patients	...	...	20
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	3,820
			<hr/>

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed and Mr. Anthony Lalor seconded the adoption of Report No. 267 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 26th July, 1956. Passed unanimously.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN

2nd August, 1956.

1. We visited Grangegorman on Thursday 2nd instant and commenced our tour of the Institution at No. 22 Hospital Division. The Wards presented a bright and cheerful appearance and the patients appeared quite happy. The dayrooms were very clean and neat with many patients occupying themselves in various ways.

2. In No. 25 Female Division we found everything in order and, although practically all the patients were in the dayrooms on account of the heavy rain, all appeared quite cheerful. In the kitchens the quality and quantity of the food was first class and the cooking excellent.

3. The new Divisions are certainly a wonderful improvement, bright, airy and well furnished, the cheerful atmosphere even reflects itself in the patients. The Therapy shop was a hive of industry and the progress made by some of the patients reflects great credit on all concerned. The work of replacing the heating apparatus in the Visiting Hall is making good progress.

4. The levels of the roadway outside the new Visiting Hall and Therapy Shop appear to be unsatisfactory as heavy rain causes considerable flooding. Some attention might be given to this.

5. The accommodation in the Shoemaker's shop is entirely inadequate, with the increasing output and requirements. Early consideration should be given to increased accommodation. We also visited the upholstering and tailoring shops and saw some fine work being done.

6. The washing out of the large Dining Hall is certainly a big job but it was being accomplished very satisfactorily. The infirmary was neat and orderly showing no lack of care and attention.

7. In No. 6 Male Division we found all in good order and no complaints. Also in No. 3 and No. 1 Pantry everything appeared in perfect order.

8. The Staff dining room is certainly in need of early attention as it is in a bad state of repair and the kitchen equipment obsolete.

Our best thanks are due to Dr. E. O'Sullivan, Miss Sharkey (Matron) and Mr. Kavanagh (Head Male Nurse) for their courtesy and help.

WILLIAM COLMAN.
THOMAS STAFFORD.
GILBERT HUGHES.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE

14th August, 1956.

1. Under the guidance of Dr. Aird we carried out an inspection at Portrane Mental Hospital on Tuesday, 14th August.

2. Having heard so much criticism of the new house built for the R.M.S. we examined it thoroughly. Our opinion is that it is a well built house and as the few defects have been dealt with there is no ground now for complaints. The only criticism we have to offer is that the fireplaces in drawing and dining rooms could have had surrounds of a nicer type.

3. In the new division No. 10 we spoke to many of the patients who had just finished lunch and all said they had enjoyed a good meal. We inspected the dormitories in this division and found all in first class order.

4. On entering the Laundry we noticed a board needing repair as someone could trip over it and a nasty accident might occur. The holes require cementing.

5. Dr. Hegarty accompanied us through Female Division Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4. As the day was bright and sunny, most of the women from these divisions were out of doors. We must comment on the improvement in the dining room since it was painted.

6. The kitchen was clean and tidy and the scullery yard fairly tidy. It is difficult to keep the gulls from taking the offal in the bins.

7. Our thanks are due to Drs. Aird and Hegarty for their kindness in showing us around.

WILLIAM COLMAN.

CATHERINE BYRNE.

MARY MULVEY.

KATHLEEN NIX.

Order.—Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to 20th September, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board:—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor William J. Colman (Chairman).

" Mrs. M. Mulvey.

" Mrs. Kathleen Nix.

" William Lawless.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor William J. Colman (Chairman).

" E. Timmons.

Mr. William Chase.

Mr. Thomas O'Reilly.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

10th August, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on the 6th instant 3,829 patients, viz:—

	Males	Females	Total
Grangegorman ...	779	1,253	2,032
Portrane ...	965	832	1,797
	1,744	2,085	3,829

as compared with:—

6th August, 1955	...	1,757	2,059	3,816
6th August, 1954	...	1,749	2,040	3,789
6th August, 1953	...	1,692	2,057	3,749
6th August, 1952	...	1,633	1,982	3,615

this year's number being 13 more than on the corresponding date last year and 214 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. *Accidents to Patients, Grangegorman.*—Male Patient P.S. (10305) on admission from Baltinglass Hospital on 13th ultimo, was found to have a right Colles fracture.

When female patient A.F. (7794) was being bathed on 13th ultimo she was observed to have a bruised left shoulder. An X-ray examination revealed a fracture of the outer end of left clavicle. The only history of injury was that of a fall on the grounds a few days previously, after which the patient did not appear to be injured. She may, however, have fractured the clavicle at this time.

On 26th ultimo it was noticed that female patient C.J. (5288) had a swollen ankle, and X-ray examination showed a right Potts fracture with only moderate deformity. The patient stated she slipped on the stairs the previous day.

On 29th ultimo it was noticed that female patient M.C. (9933) had a swollen wrist. An X-ray examination showed an impacted Colles fracture with a good

deal of comminution, the fracture involving joint space. The patient stated she slipped and fell in the ward on the morning of the 28th ultimo but did not mention it to any nurse.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

4. *Accidents to Patients, Portrane*, On 2nd ultimo female patient A.K. (8133) aged 80 years, when getting out of bed in No. 10 Division slipped on the floor of the dormitory. She complained of pain in the region of the left hip and has some limitation of movement. There is clinical evidence of an impacted fracture in the upper third of the left femur but owing to her physical condition it has not yet been possible to have it confirmed radiologically.

On the 9th ultimo female patient K.R. (35176) aged 80 years, was found to have a right fracture of the neck of right femur. This patient was unable to leave her bed without the aid of a nurse and, therefore could not have been out in the dormitory without the knowledge of the staff. At 8.45 a.m. she was taken up by Charge Nurse Clear when she appeared to be alright. At 11 a.m. when about to be given a bed bath, the condition was noticed. The fracture would appear to have been a spontaneous one. A possible contributory factor may have been the occurrence earlier this year of an extensive non-traumatic haematoma over the fracture area, which took about three months to resolve and may have been associated with certain bony changes. On 9th ultimo male patient J.C. (34220), aged 59 years, was noticed to have swelling of both feet with pain and limitation of movement, more marked on

the right side. There was no history of any injury and no sign of any external trauma on the skin, the patient appearing to have a sprained right ankle. Later he was sent for X-ray examination, the report stating that he had a fracture of the tip of the right external malleolus with slight displacement.

The Portrane Medical Superintendent assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

6. Male Patient J.L. (9665) at Grangegorman, admitted from Mountjoy Prison on 17th February, 1956, escaped from the grounds on 1st instant. He was a liberty patient and had been working on the farm. The usual steps were taken to find him and the Gardai notified but without avail. His sentence expired on 9th April, 1956.

Male Patient J. O'S (10214) Grangegorman, a voluntary and liberty patient, failed to return off pass on 10th ultimo.

Female Patient M.G. (10168) who was working in No. 22 division kitchen at Grangegorman was missed at 1.10 p.m. on the 28th ultimo. Nurses were sent to her home and she was brought back at 2.0 p.m.

The Chief R.M.S. informs me that he does not consider there was any negligence on the part of any member of the staff in connection with these escapes.

7. Male Patients G.O'M. (43381) and D.C. (42773), who had full liberty of the grounds at Portrane, failed to return to their wards after tea on 6th ultimo. Both returned to Grangegorman of their own volition on 9th ultimo and were later transferred to Portrane.

Male Patient B.D. (6582), a liberty patient failed to turn in to supper on 23rd ultimo. Later the same

evening he was brought back to Grangegorman by male nurses and the following day he was returned to Portrane.

The Portrane Medical Superintendent informs me that these patients were not regarded as requiring constant supervision and he is satisfied that there was no negligence on the part of the staff in connection with their escapes.

8. *Accidents to Staff, Grangegorman.*—Nurse C.F. was kicked on the leg by a patient on 10th ultimo and has been off duty since that date.

On the 4th ultimo Female Attendant M.H. sustained an injury to her leg when she accidentally struck it against a chair. She was off duty from 6th to 17th ultimo, inclusive.

Nurse B.McD. was off duty from 14th to 21st ultimo, inclusive, as the result of an injury to her left leg sustained when accidentally struck by a hay fork when off duty.

Female Attendant D.M. was off duty from 15th to 21st ultimo, inclusive, with a sprained ankle sustained when she accidentally slipped when on duty the previous day.

9. *Accidents to Staff, Portrane.*—Female Attendant K.P. O'B. slipped and fell in No. 6 Division on 14th and sustained a Colles fracture of her left wrist. She is still off duty.

J.M. vanman, received an injury to the second finger of his right hand on the 14th ultimo when loading heavy equipment at the farmyard. He is still off duty.

Temporary Attendant T.L. was off duty from 19th

to 20th ultimo, inclusive, as a result of slipping when on duty in No. 1 Division and twisting his ankle.

Female Attendant M.L. was off duty from 16th to 19th ultimo, inclusive, as a result of having her left wrist twisted by a patient.

A number of other accidents to members of the staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

10. I have accepted the following tenders for the sale of scrap lead and metal:—

William Toner, Scrap lead at £96 per ton.

Hammond Lane, Heavy C.I. Metal and Boiler Sections at £7 12s. 6d. per ton. Light iron and tins at £1 5s. 0d. per ton.

J. E. Collins, Assorted metals and bedsteads at £5 0s. 0d. per ton.

11. The Department of Health have approved of the issue of an instalment of £4,200 out of the grant towards the cost of the Female Visiting Hall.

12. I have approved of the proposed public lighting at Portrane by fifteen 100-watt lamps from dusk to midnight and eleven 100-watt lamps from 6 a.m. to dawn, at a cost of about £55 per annum.

13. On 19th ultimo Messrs. Edward Fossett & Sons gave a performance of their circus at Portrane, which was very much enjoyed by the patients.

14. The Sports Committee, Portrane, have informed me that it is proposed to hold the Annual Sports at Portrane on Sunday, 26th August. I have approved

of a grant of £160 from the Canteen Account towards the cost.

15. On the recommendation of the Agricultural Manager, I have accepted the offer of Mr. E. Bourne, on behalf of the Dock Milling Co. Ltd. for this year's wheat crop, for milling purposes, at the price guaranteed under the Wheat Order, 1956. Mr. Bourne's offer regarding haulage conditions and allowances is more favourable than either of the other two offers.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO BOARD.

16th August, 1956.

16. Since 16th ultimo 72 male and 71 female patients were admitted, total 143. One hundred and forty-one of these were chargeable patients, of whom 78 were temporary, 37 were voluntary and 26 were Persons of Unsound Mind. There were also admitted one voluntary private patient and one patient under Section 208 of the Mental Treatment Act, 1945, for special treatment from Castlereagh Mental Hospital.

17. At the meeting of the Board held on 19th July, Mr. Thomas O'Reilly raised the question of changing the names of the Board's Hospitals to Saints' names.

The Board's institutions at Grangegorman and Portrane comprise the "district mental hospital" for the county borough of Dublin and the counties of Dublin and Wicklow and the Board is the 'mental hospital authority' for that district. In certain statutory documents e.g. forms relating to the reception

of patients, these descriptions must be used. As far as I am aware, there is nothing to prevent the adoption and use of other descriptions informally, for example on letter paper and in advertisements, other than statutory notices. At the same time, if other designations for the hospitals are adopted and come into general use, there is bound to be confusion where the necessity arises for the use of the proper statutory designation, and this would be most undesirable if it affected the validity of documents relating to the reception of patients.

I understand that an amendment of the Mental Treatment Act, 1945, is contemplated which will permit a mental hospital authority, with the consent of the Minister, to adopt a new name for the district mental hospital which can be used for all purposes and I would suggest that the proposal be deferred until this can be done.

18. I have received from the Department of Health circular letters drawing attention to the recent review in Dail Eireann of the budgetary situation, with particular reference to the critical position which may develop in prevailing economic circumstances unless immediate and effective steps are taken to limit State and local authority spending to the utmost practicable extent consistent with the maintenance of essential services. The Circulars request me to arrange an immediate review of the Board's expenditure under all heads with a view to seeing what expenditure involving imports can be reduced or deferred so as to assist in correcting the unfavourable balance of trade and, apart from expenditure on imported goods, what economies can be effected immediately and in the foreseeable future without reducing the scope of existing

services. I am having this review carried out in consultation with the appropriate officers of the Board and I will report the result at the earliest possible date.

19. A sum of £450 is provided in the current year's estimates for the replacement of steam pipework in the boilerhouse in the Female House at Grangegorman. Three tenders were received for this work in response to public advertisements, viz.:—

Tender No. 1	£590.
" " 2	£675
" " 3	£682.

I am advised that the replacement of the pipework is a matter of urgent necessity and on the recommendation of the Board's Consulting Engineer, I propose to accept the lowest tender, subject to the approval of the Minister for Health but have directed that a corresponding saving be made in other directions.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:—

Paragraph 13.—Enquiries to be made as to the possibility of sending patients from Grangegorman to the Circus at present in Dublin.

Paragraph 17.—Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor William Lawless "That the Board would urge the Minister for Health to introduce the amending legislation necessary to permit of the

formal adoption of new designations for Grangeor-
man and Portrane Mental Hospitals." Passed
unanimously.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

P. J. AIRD,
Acting Chief R.M.S.



*Report No. 269.***Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.****AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.**

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 23rd day of August, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present: Councillors James Andrews, C. M. Byrne, Sean Dunne, T.D., Gilbert Hughes, Eugene Timmons, P.C., William Lawless, Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Thomas P. O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND
VICE-CHAIRMAN.**

A discussion took place on the question of electing a Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Agricultural Committee, which had been raised at the previous meeting.

The Chief Clerk reported verbally:—

(i) That the rules of the former joint Committee had provided that each Standing Committee, at the meeting next following the meeting at which it was appointed, should elect a Chairman and Deputy Chairman to hold office for one year. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Joint Committee were *ex-officio* members of all Committees;

(ii) That Section 95(3) of the Mental Treatment Act, 1945, provided that the quorum, procedure and

place of meeting of a committee appointed by a mental hospital authority should be such as might be appointed by regulations to be made by the mental hospital authority appointing the Committee;

(iii) That the Board had made no regulations under Section 95 (3) of the 1945 Act and the practice had been, since the Board was established on 1st January, 1947, that the Chairman of the Board had taken the chair at meetings of the Agricultural and other Committees.

The following resolution, proposed by Councillor Sean Dunne, T.D., seconded by Mr. John Smithers was adopted unanimously:—

"That the Board at its next meeting be asked to confirm that a Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Agricultural Committee may be elected by the Committee."

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.

23rd August, 1956.

1. Since my last report of the 26th ultimo, milk supplies have not improved and shortages have occurred varying from 36 gallons to 90 gallons per day. This shortage is likely to continue for the next few months at least, and unless suitable disease-free stock can be purchased at a reasonable price, I would advise the continued purchase of milk as the more economic. The present shortage is mainly due to the heavy wastage from the herd due to the reactors from the recent T.B. test.

The present daily average yield from 235 cows is 2.01 gallons. The following table gives an analysis

of the present daily production compared with that of last month:—

	<i>This month</i>	<i>Last month</i>
Over 5 gallons	... 1	1
4—5 "	... 16	16
3—4 "	... 40	43
2—3 "	... 79	74
1—2 "	... 77	77
Under 1 gallon	... 22	27
Total	... 235	238

2. The following is a table of (a) purchases (b) sales of livestock during the month of July:—

(a)	Total Cost	Average per Beast
31 sheep	£203 18 0	£6 11 7

(b) 17 calves were sold at the following prices:—
 1 @ £4.10.0, 1 @ £5.8.0, 4 @ £7.10.0, 1 @ £8.0.0, 1 @ £8.10.0, 2 @ £9.0.0, 2 @ £9.10.0, 2 @ £10.0.0, 1 @ £12.0.0, and 2 @ £13.0.0 each; total £151.8.0. 14 bonhams were sold @ £6 each; total £84.0.0. 48 store pigs were transferred to Grangegorman, 24 @ £8.0.0 and 24 @ £7.10.0 each; total £372.0.0.

3. *Mastitis*: The position with regard to mastitis in the herd can be considered satisfactory. A few cases of clinical mastitis occurred on all farms and one case of Summer mastitis occurred, resulting in the loss of 2 quarters, which necessitated the slaughter of the cow. All other cases have responded to treatment and the incidence of the disease is much less than at this time in previous years.

4. *Grass*: There are good supplies of grass available on all farms and the meadows, cut to date, have given excellent crops. The meadows remaining to be cut for hay are also good. Present indications are

that there will be sufficient supplies of grass available to provide grazing for all stock until well into Autumn.

5. *Crops*: The first early potatoes are digging very well. The Home Guards in the swamp fields are yielding exceptionally well. To date approximately 11 acres have been dug, yielding over 9 tons per acre. The potato crop is now being sprayed for the third time.

The silage pit at Turvey was completely filled and sealed off. To date approximately 126 acres of hay has been cut on the Portrane, Ballymastone and Turvey farms and approximately 110 acres have been made up.

So far no corn has been cut, but crops are ripening fast on all farms and should be ready for cutting in about a week's time. The recent rains have caused some lodging of the corn crops, and present indications are that harvesting will be difficult. Haymaking has also been held up. There has been heavy rains over the weekend, which has caused severe flooding on Turvey and Portrane farms. The undug portion of the early potatoes in the swamp field, approximately 5 acres, is now under water, also 16 acres of hay in cocks in this field. The full extent of the damage to these crops cannot be fully assessed at the moment, but it will be considerable. Corn crops are also badly tossed and further lodging has occurred. All land is now very wet and this will add further to the already difficult position of harvesting and haymaking.

6. *Santry Court*: The cutting and saving of hay was completed on 3rd instant. In all 44 acres were saved. It gave a very good yield and should average ap-

proximately 2 tons per statute acre. There is sufficient grass available for the present stock and with the addition of aftergrass, there should be ample supplies available well into the Winter. During the past week some of the pastures here have received a dressing of Sulphate of Ammonia. There was a bad outbreak of hoose among the calves, which necessitated the removal of a further 30 calves to Turvey farm, where they have been housed by night and put on clean fresh pastures by day. Since their removal to Turvey they have shown a vast improvement and coughing has ceased a lot; and there is no danger of any loss occurring among them. There are now 68 calves housed at Turvey farm.

The present stock at Santry comprises 1 horse, 58 calves, 45 one-year-old heifers and 41 two-year-old heifers.

JAMES HAYES,
Agricultural Manager.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER, PORTRANE.

1. *Vegetable Fields:* The heavy rainfall and wet condition of the land has slowed up the work of planting brassicas for late Autumn, Winter and early Spring use. At this time last year I had completed the planting of brassicas and had made the first sowing of Autumn onions. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, I have still another 5 acres of brassicas to plant and ground to prepare for my first sowing of onions. The weather has also retarded the progress of other young crops such as parsnips, Summer cabbage, Spring onions and awede

turnips. Under normal conditions early sown parsnips and swede turnips should be quite fit for use in mid-August. At the moment the only crop fit for use is the Summer cabbage which should be sufficient to keep up a supply for 7 or 8 days, by then some of the root crop may be fit for delivery to the hospitals.

2. Kitchen Gardens and Recreation Grounds: Work carried out in these sections during the past month is as follows:—Sowing cabbage, lettuce and parsley seed, completed planting of celery, picking of peas, beans and red currants, spraying fruit trees, potting up flowering bulbs for Christmas and January decorations and general indoor and outdoor work. Four and a half acres of newly laid out ground have received a dressing of artificial manure during the past week; all other grounds and flower beds are in good condition. The sports ground is at the moment being prepared for the coming sports event.

GRANGEGORMAN

3. Work carried out in this department consisted of planting cabbage and lettuce, earthing leeks and brussel sprouts, weeding onions, carrots and turnips and general care of shrubberies and recreation grounds.

ANDREW WOLOHAN,
Head Gardener.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE FARMS AND GARDENS.

9th August, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane farm on the 9th instant. Mr. Hayes, Farm Manager, kindly met us at Donabate and brought us along to Turvey farm where we saw

a fine lot of young calves recently transferred from Santry owing to an outbreak of Hoose. They all looked well and have benefited by the change. The grass and meadows are in excellent condition proving beyond doubt that expenditure on fertilizers was well justified. There is every sign of a bumper crop of hay; even on fields where a crop has been taken off for silage, there is a heavy crop ready for cutting. Fields already cut and saved gave a splendid crop of first class hay. There is a large amount of meadow yet to be cut and saved but given fair weather there is every prospect of an excellent return on all our farms.

2. The Winter wheat crop is in excellent condition and ripening well. The Spring wheat is also making splendid progress and if the harvest weather is favourable we may expect a record return.

3. It was refreshing to see a tractor and a pair of horses mowing in the same field each doing the job in a first class manner but clearly demonstrating that the horse is still an important factor in practical farming.

4. The cow byres and dairy showed results of proper care and attention. The hay shed is being rapidly filled by first class quality hay and the general appearance of the farm buildings is all that could be desired.

5. We saw a splendid looking crop of potatoes being sprayed and there is every reason to expect a bumper crop there.

6. We proceeded to Ballymastone where we saw a fine herd of cows all in good health and condition. Here also the grass and meadows were in excellent

condition, giving a heavy crop; potatoes and root crops were also making good progress. The young calves housed here are up to the usual very high standard.

7. After lunch we inspected Portrane farm and found the piggeries well stocked and doing very well; good litters are still being produced and the high standard well maintained. The cow byres were very well kept, clean and comfortable. We were pleased to notice a number of patients interested in light work about the farmyard.

8. We saw a fine crop of potatoes being dug which were excellent in quality and quantity. Good progress was also being made in setting Winter cabbage.

9. We visited the gardens and were very pleased with the fine display of flowers and vegetables. There is every prospect of a record crop of tomatoes and the apple crop is doing well.

The greenhouses look very well and good progress is being made in renovating.

10. On the whole we were very pleased with the general appearance of all our farmlands and after a very exhaustive inspection we are convinced that the manner in which this farm is operated and the progress being made in all branches of agriculture should prove conclusively there here is a good job being well done.

(Signed) GILBERT HUGHES.

WILLIAM CHASE.

Order.—Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 27th September, 1956, date of next meeting of the Committee:—

Councillor W. J. Colman.

„ William Lawless.

Mr. John Smithers.

Miss M. C. Ennis.

PORTRANE FARM.

Arising out of Paragraph 4 of the Report of Inspection carried out on the 31st May by Councillors Colman and Lawless and Messrs. Smithers and O'Reilly, the Chief Clerk submitted a report from the Agricultural Manager recommending the construction of a potato store in the hay barn in Portrane Farmyard, the cost of which was estimated to be £240. The Manager had approved of that recommendation, subject to the concurrence of the Board.

On the motion of Councillor W. Lawless, seconded by Councillor Gilbert Hughes, the Committee unanimously recommended approval of this proposal.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

P. J. AIRD,
Acting Chief R.M.S.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

FOR THE YEAR 1955

BY

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

AND

THE FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1956

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AND

THE FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Report No. 270

Grangegorman Mental Hospital

ACCOUNTS FOR 1955-1956

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X. KEANE.
Accountant.

TABLE 1.—RECEIPTS

Actual Receipts 1952-53	Actual Receipts 1953-54	Actual Receipts 1954-55		Estimated Receipts 1955-56	Actual Receipts 1955-56	Comparison	
						Increase	Decrease
£	£	£	Receipts for Paying Patients:	£	£	£	£
29,802	34,276	40,378	(a) City of Dublin Account	34,000	32,915	—	1,085
7,466	11,058	7,068	(b) County Dublin Account	7,000	8,085	1,085	—
3,758	3,908	3,678	(c) County Wicklow Account	3,300	3,851	551	—
41,026	49,242	51,124	Total for Paying Patients from Contributing Area	44,300	44,851	551	—
3,745	4,144	3,805	(d) Criminal Lunatic Service patients	3,500	3,757	257	—
5,071	5,254	5,191	(e) Criminal Lunatics	5,000	4,547	—	453
2,978	4,206	4,591	(f) Non-District Patients	3,000	5,144	2,144	—
52,820	62,846	64,711	Total for Paying Patients	55,800	58,299	2,499	—
8,549	11,641	10,363	Farm Account Sales	9,000	12,008	3,008	—
578	335	333	Sale of Offal and Old Stores	300	943	643	—
816	610	500	Interest Allowed by Treasurer	—	484	484	—
358	182	126	Miscellaneous Receipts	200	122	—	78
9,569	10,385	10,654	Superannuation Deductions	10,000	11,407	1,407	—
5,339	4,352	4,391	Other Deductions from salaries & wages	5,000	31,382	26,382	—
—	—	2,130	Accumulated balances in Patients' Private Property Account	—	—	—	—
£78,029	£90,351	£93,208		£80,300	£114,645	£34,345	—

TABLE II—EXPENDITURE.

Expenditure 1952-53	Expenditure 1953-54	Expenditure 1954-55		Estimated Expenditure 1955-56	Actual Expenditure 1955-56	Comparison	
						Increase	Decrease
£	£	£		£	£	£	£
126,736	139,274	142,002	Food, Drink and Tobacco	141,000	94,196	—	46,804
71,904	77,572	83,414	Farm Expenses	80,190	71,837	—	8,353
2,293	2,593	2,680	Materials for Washing or Cleansing	2,500	3,109	609	—
7,354	6,710	6,293	Medicines	7,000	10,839	3,839	—
59,217	53,152	60,016	Heating, Lighting & Water Supply	56,000	66,431	10,431	—
38,271	42,996	42,524	Clothing and Bedding	42,000	28,881	—	13,119
7,432	9,153	7,577	Furniture, Crockery and Hardware	9,000	6,492	—	2,508
2,794	2,396	2,079	Medical and Surgical Appliances	2,500	2,467	—	33
241,535	263,097	279,186	Salaries and Wages	300,250	410,460	110,210	—
36,377	35,157	34,372	Superannuations, etc.	34,000	43,710	9,710	—
22,852	25,356	24,373	Structural alterations, Repairs, etc.	24,112	25,326	1,214	—
3,148	3,316	3,419	Stationery, Printing and Advertising	3,500	3,673	173	—
4,131	4,342	4,662	Rents, Rates, Taxes and Insurances	4,600	5,023	423	—
345	325	138	Re-afforestation of Portrane	300	228	—	72
8,561	10,381	13,283	Miscellaneous Expenses	11,260	12,957	1,697	—
309	1,049	189	Maintenance in other Mental Hospitals	200	314	114	—
—	—	62	Conveyance of Patients to Hospital	700	215	—	485
—	—	1,655	Fees to Authorised Medical Officers	3,000	2,646	—	354
13,273	15,560	16,666	Loan Charges	32,000	25,413	—	6,587
£646,532	£692,429	£726,590		£754,112	£814,217	£60,105	—

Additional Expenditure amounting to £114,083 was specially authorised by the Board pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 11 of the City and County Management (Amendment) Act, 1955, during the year, 1955/56.

GRANGEGORMAN FARM AND GARDEN ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1956

1955	Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	1956	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
April 1								March 31							
To Value of Stock on hand								By Cash Sales							
Live Stock	2,339	0	0					Value of Produce supplied:—							
Farm Produce	60	0	0					Root Crops	524	1	8				
Implements	60	0	0		2,459	0	0	Other Vegetables	621	16	10				
								Bacon	8,558	16	5				
March, 31, 1956.								Fruit	26	7	2				
To Cash Expenditure for Year:—								Flowers and Plants	50	0	0		9,781	2	1
Paid Labour	957	10	5												
Manures	103	5	8					" Value of Horses not employed on Farm work					520	0	0
Implements	226	11	10												
Seeds and Plants	328	5	0					" Value of Stock on hand:							
Pigs								Live Stock	1,935	0	0				
Fodder and Feeding Stuffs	1,442	2	2					Farm Produce	60	0	0		2,055	0	0
Maintenance and Repairs	67	0	0					Implements	60	0	0				
Fuel, Light and Water	440	0	0		3,617	5	7								
Miscellaneous	52	10	6												
" Pigs received from Portrane					4,095	10	0								
" Other Charges:—															
Estimated Rental	170	0	0												
Offal Supplied	150	0	0		320	0	0								
" Profit for year, excluding any charge for Patient Labour					1,864	6	6								
					£12,356	2	1						£12,356	2	1

PORTRANE FARM ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1956

1955	Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	1956	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
April 1								March 31							
To value of stock on hand								By Cash Sales							
Live Stock		35,291	7	6				Hides, Skins and Wools		1,339	1	4			
Farm Produce		8,356	19	11				Calves Sold		2,127	0	6			
Implements		7,796	14	6	51,445	1	11	Pigs Sold		3,155	4	9			
								Wheat		5,171	13	1			
March, 31, 1956.								Bulls Sold		65	13	6			
To Cash Expenditure for								Horses Sold		95	0	0	11,953	13	2
Year:—								.. Pigs to Grangegorman					4,095	10	0
Paid Labour		22,279	4	3				.. Produce Supplied:—							
Manures		2,565	8	10				Potatoes		13,046	1	4			
Implements		1,109	17	4				Milk		24,294	16	3			
Seeds and Plants		2,012	15	8				Pork		380	19	7			
Livestock		13,970	8	9				Butcher's Meat		21,029	3	4	58,751	0	6
Fodder and Feeding								.. Value of Horse Hire and					390	0	0
Stuffs		12,408	17	5				Labour supplied for in-							
Freight		36	9	0				stitution purposes solely							
Vet. Attendance		773	9	7				.. Value of Stock on hand:—							
Petrol, Oil, Electricity								Live Stock		30,327	5	0			
from E.S.B.		1,852	5	6				Farm Produce		10,979	4	2			
Maintenance and Re-								Implements		6,304	9	0	47,610	18	2
pairs		3,269	5	2											
Fuel, Light and Water		886	15	8	62,179	8	3								
Rates		614	11	1											
.. Other Charges:—															
Estimated Rental		1,720	0	0											
Offal Supplied		150	0	0	1,870	0	0								
.. Profit for Year, exclud-															
ing any charge for															
Patent Labour					7,306	11	8								
					£122,801	1	10						£122,801	1	10

PORTRANE GARDEN ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1956

1955	Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	1956	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
April 1								March 31							
To value of stock on hand:								By Cash Sales							54 0 0
Produce and Crops		1,355	12	6				Value of Produce Supplied:							
Implements	...	1,134	18	10	2,490	11	4	Root Crops	...	1,062	16	4			
								Other Vegetables	...	5,918	11	1			
March, 31, 1956.								Fruit	...	614	8	0			
To Cash Expenditure during Year:								Flowers and Plants	...	50	0	0	7,645	15	5
Paid Labour	...	3,224	1	9				.. Value of Stock on hand:							
Manures	...	415	17	0				Produce and Crops	...	1,771	14	7			
Implements	...	200	7	6				Implements	...	998	12	9	2,770	7	4
Seeds and Plants	...	165	14	7											
Miscellaneous	...	784	8	9											
Maintenance	...	936	7	0	6,039	19	3								
Fuel, Light & Water	...	313	2	8											
.. Estimated Rental	...				585	0	0								
.. Profit for Year, excluding any charge for Patient Labour	...				1,354	12	2								
					£10,470	2	9						£10,470	2	9

TABLE showing Daily Average Number of Patients Resident and Average Daily Cost for each patient.

Year Ended	Daily Average Number of Patients Resident	Average Daily Cost for Each Patient		
		Grangegorman	Portrane	Total
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
31st March, 1947 ...	3,352	6 9.64	6 10.50	6 10.02
31st March, 1948 ...	3,302	8 7.27	7 10.01	8 3.20
31st March, 1949 ...	3,366	8 8.87	8 7.48	8 8.25
31st March, 1950 ...	3,441	8 3.40	7 7.39	7 11.92
31st March, 1951 ...	3,524	8 10.98	8 1.71	8 6.94
31st March, 1952 ...	3,533	9 10.73	9 2.53	9 7.09
31st March, 1953 ...	3,620	10 1.49	9 5.42	9 9.96
31st March, 1954 ...	3,730	10 4.03	9 8.80	10 0.86
31st March, 1955 ...	3,768	10 9.04	9 8.10	10 3.37
31st March, 1956 ...	3,792	12 3.64	10 11.29	11 8.45

These costs are calculated in accordance with Articles 93 and 94 of the Public Bodies Order, 1946.

SUMMARY OF GRANGEGORMAN AND PORTRANE CANTEN ACCOUNTS, FOR YEAR 1955-56

Dr.		PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR 1955-56		Cr.	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
To Value of Stock at commencement of Year		818 19 7	By Cash Sales	21,441 12 0	
" Purchases		18,475 15 4	" Tobacco bonuses	44 12 7	
" Wages, Canteen Attendants		314 9 4	" Interest on Deposit Accounts	22 9 9	
" Other Working Expenses		122 7 5	" Value of Stock on hands	1,092 12 3	
" Bonus to Canteen Manager		116 8 8			
" Audit Fee		14 14 0			
" Balance (Profit on Trading) to Balance Sheet		2,738 12 3			
		<u>£22,601 6 7</u>		<u>£22,601 6 7</u>	

Dr.		BALANCE SHEET AT 31st MARCH, 1956		Cr.	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
To Sundry Appropriations, viz.			By Balance from 1954/55 Account	2,759 14 6	
Gratuities to Patients		772 3 10	" Balance from Profit and Loss Account brought down	2,738 12 3	
Games for Patients, Prizes for Tournaments, Sports and travelling expenses for Sports Parties		205 14 11			
Extras for Patients, Concert Parties, etc.		1,007 8 10			
" Balance to next account		3,512 19 2			
		<u>£5,498 6 9</u>		<u>£5,498 6 9</u>	

Report No. 271.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

BOARD MEETING

The Monthly Meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 20th day of September, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. The following members were also present:—

City of Dublin Representatives:—Alderman Thomas Byrne, T.D., P.C., Mrs. Celia Lynch, T.D., Councillors Mrs. Catherine Byrne, James Carroll, P.C., Bernard Conway, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Senator James Joseph O'Keeffe, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Mr. William Chase, Mr. John Jones, Mr. Anthony Lalor, Mr. Ronald Roulston, Mr. Liam Gaynor, Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, Mr. John Smithers.

County Dublin Representatives:—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews, P.C., H. P. Dockrell, T.D., Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives:—Councillors W. Lawless, and P. McCarthy.

An apology was received from Councillor Thomas Stafford for his inability to attend.

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 268 of the 16th August, 1956) were confirmed and signed.

Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed and Councillor W. J. Colman seconded:—"That we learn with great regret of the illness of our colleague, Mr. John Cahill, and wish him a speedy restoration to health." Passed unanimously.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 31st August, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

On Hospital Register at 31st

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
July, 1956	...	1,784	2,100	3,884
Admitted during month	...	80	70	150
		<hr/> 1,864	<hr/> 2,170	<hr/> 4,034

Males Females Total

Discharged				
during month	54	43	97	
Died during				
month	...	6	7	13
Escaped do.	1	—	1	61
				<hr/> 50
				<hr/> 111

Remaining on Hospital Register	1,803	2,120	3,923
Absent on trial and escape	42	40	82
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Remaining in residence	...	1,761	2,080	3,841
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

DISTRIBUTION

In Grangegorman	...	793	1,264	2,057
In Portrane	...	968	816	1,784
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total number resident as above		1,761	2,080	3,841
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

CHARGEABILITY

City of Dublin	...	...	2,925
County Dublin	...	...	507
County Wicklow	...	...	346
Criminal Lunatics	...	...	42
Non-district patients	...	...	21
Total	...	...	3,841

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed and Mr. John Smithers seconded the adoption of Report No. 269 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 23rd August, 1956. *Passed unanimously.*

Arising out of this report, Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed and Mr. John Jones seconded:—"That the Board hereby confirms that a Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Agricultural Committee may be elected by the Committee." A poll was taken and the resolution was defeated, there being 11 votes for and 13 against. The voting was as follows:—

For the Resolution: Alderman Mrs. Celia Lynch, Councillors Mrs. Catherine Byrne, James Carroll, Bernard Conway, Eugene Timmons, Mr. William Chase, Mr. John Jones, Mr. Thomas O'Reilly, Mr. John Smithers, Councillors, W. Lawless, and P. McCarthy. (11).

Against the Resolution: Alderman Thomas Byrne, Councillors W. J. Colman, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, Senator James J. O'Keeffe, Mrs. M. Mulvey, James Andrews, H. P. Dockrell, Mr. Anthony Lalor, Mr. Ronald Roulston, Mr. Liam Gaynor, Miss M. C. Ennis. (13).

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN

30th August, 1956.

1. We first visited the Male Infirmary including the T.B. Ward. No. 4 Division was very clean and airy. The beds were all made up and tidy.
2. No. 1 Division dormitory was very well kept.
3. In No. 6 dormitory the floor needs repairing. We were told that the Manager and Clerk of Works are having it attended to.
4. We visited also the E. C. T. Treatment Room, the Male Kitchen and Dining Hall. The patients were coming in for dinner and there were no complaints.
5. The Bread Room and Scullery off the Male Kitchen need cleaning.
6. No. 3 Division dayroom needs painting; the floor is in bad condition. The dayroom is well kept. The patients were playing billiards and cards and seemed very comfortable.
7. We wish to thank Dr. Geraghty and Deputy Head Nurse Vero for showing us round.

WILLIAM J. COLMAN.

WILLIAM LAWLESS.

MARY MULVEY.

Order.—Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

22nd August, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane on Wednesday, August 22nd, and with Dr. Aird R.M.S., Dr. Meenan and Mr. Chalmers we first visited the kitchen adjoining No. 8 Division to investigate a complaint made earlier about insufficient steam pressure which was causing a delay with the cooking. It would appear that some of the pipes were choked and they had been cleared. We noticed that one of the newly installed steam ovens for the cooking of potatoes appeared to be badly sited and difficulty is being experienced by members of the staff servicing it. The floor where the oven stands slopes and no effort was apparently made to provide an oven foundation for the oven and we request that the matter be examined with a view to improving it. We were disappointed to note that the new equipment installed was in a dirty condition and had all the appearance of not having been cleaned since put into service. Regular cleaning after use should be insisted upon as is done in the Main Kitchen. On enquiry we were told that there was insufficient staff for this purpose. In the kitchen is an electric fryer which we were told arrived with a broken part and cannot be used. We were given to understand that the fryer is quite unnecessary as fish for patients is boiled and if members of the staff desire fried fish it can be prepared on one of the hot plates on the oven. We should like to know the reason why this piece of equipment was purchased.

2. We visited the new Female Unit where patients were partaking of dinner. We received no complaints.

We noticed that the concrete steps giving access to the building are not uniform in width and as there are many very old patients accommodated here we think it would be desirable to provide a hand rail to ensure that no patient will fall. The gullies in the vicinity of this unit need clearing.

3. We went to No. 10 Division and found everything satisfactory. The rere of the building, however, presented a dirty and untidy appearance and we urge that steps be taken to clean it up. We also visited the new Children's Unit and we were surprised to learn that only 11 patients are accommodated there. We should like to know if it is proposed to transfer more patients to this Unit.

4. We visited the workshops and saw many patients engaged making rugs, mats, baskets, etc., and we were pleased to learn that there is a keen demand for their products.

5. Returning from the workshops we noticed a large number of cut trees which have been lying there for years. We suggest that consideration be given to their utilisation for fuel in the Institution or their disposal by sale.

We wish to thank Dr. Aird, Dr. Meenan and Mr. Chalmers for their kind co-operation during our visit.

W. J. COLMAN.
EUGENE TIMMONS.
THOMAS O'REILLY.
WILLIAM CHASE.

Order.—Referred to Manager for report.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to 18th October, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board:—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

" Mrs. C. Byrne.

" Mrs. Nix.

Mr. William Chase.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

" J. Andrews.

Mr. A. Lalor.

Councillor W. Lawless.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

14th September, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on the 11th instant 3,858 patients, viz.:—

	Males	Females	Total
Grangegorman	804	1,206	2,010
Portrane	956	892	1,848
	1,760	2,098	3,858

as compared with: —

11th September, 1955 ...	1,743	2,074	3,817
11th September, 1954 ...	1,745	2,059	3,804
11th September, 1953 ...	1,719	2,055	3,774
11th September, 1952 ...	1,649	2,004	3,653

this year's number being 41 more than on the corresponding date last year and 205 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. On the 14th ultimo male patient P.D. (8492), aged 56 years, was found in a collapsed state in the toilet of No. 9 division at Portrane. He was attended immediately by a Medical Officer but died almost at once. The facts were reported to the Coroner who ordered a post mortem which revealed a rupture of the right ventricle. The Coroner did not deem an inquest necessary.

On the 17th ultimo female patient E.O'R. (35117), aged 65 years, slipped on the floor of the toilet in No. 11 female division at Portrane and sustained a fracture of the lower third of the shaft of the left femur. The patient was transferred the same day to Grangegorman for treatment but she died on the 28th ultimo. An inquest was held by the City Coroner with a jury on the 8th instant and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence that

death was due to pneumonia and heart failure accelerated by the injuries sustained by the deceased in the accident which had occurred at Portrane on the 17th ultimo. The jury added a rider to the effect that the hospital staff had done everything possible for the deceased and they exonerated the nurse who had charge of the patient at the time of the accident from any blame.

4. On the 8th ultimo male patient E.C. (9752), a working patient in No. 7 division at Grangegorman, was missing from his ward at 11.30 a.m. He was apprehended at his home in Co. Wicklow the following morning and brought back to the hospital.

Male patient M.McG (10176) escaped from No. 10 division at Grangegorman on the morning of the 26th ultimo. A temporary Male Attendant, who was off duty, saw the patient and had him conveyed back to the Hospital within half an hour.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that there was no negligence on the part of any member of the staff in connection with these escapes.

Male patient M.R. (7684), a voluntary and liberty patient, failed to return off pass from Grangegorman on the 13th ultimo.

5. Male patient B.D. (6582), a liberty patient, failed to return to his ward at Portrane at 8.15 p.m. on the 13th ultimo. He was apprehended later at Amlens Street Station by the Guards and brought back the same evening. As this patient had full liberty, the Portrane Medical Superintendent does not attribute

any blame to the nursing staff in connection with this escape.

6. *Accidents to Patients, Grangegorman.*—On the 27th July male patient B.G. (9075) accidentally tripped over the legs of another patient in No. 6 division dayroom and fractured the lower end of the right tibia.

On the 6th instant male patient E.N. (10281), a voluntary and liberty patient, was found in the lavatory of No. 3 division grounds with a deep wound in his right wrist, apparently caused by a razor blade. He received treatment from a Medical Officer and subsequently from a Visiting Surgeon. The Chief R.M.S. informs me that the patient was an excellent worker and had shown no evidence of depression before this incident.

On the 21st ultimo female patient C.K. (1292), aged 85 years, slipped and fell in a wash-house, sustaining a slight abrasion of the right side of the head and a fracture of the right femur.

On the 26th ultimo female patient K.B. (39029), aged 73 years, accidentally slipped off a ward chair, sustaining an oblique fracture of the lower femoral shaft.

On the 26th ultimo female patient A.M. (8521) was pushed by another patient and fell on the elbow, sustaining a marginal fracture of the head of the left radius.

The Chief R.M.S. considers that there was no negligence on the part of any member of the nursing

staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

7. Accidents to patients, Portrane.—On the 15th ultimo male patient J.McE (36372), aged 67 years, slipped in the passage way to the dininghall. He complained afterwards of a pain in the left ankle and was transferred to the Infirmary. An X-ray examination later revealed a spiral fracture of the lower end of the left fibula.

The Portrane Medical Superintendent assures me that there was no negligence on the part of the staff in connection with this accident which has been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

8. Accidents to Staff, Grangegorman.—Temporary Attendant S.G. was off duty from the 11th August to the 9th September with an injury to his right thumb sustained when attacked by a patient on the 6th ultimo.

Nurse P.L. was off duty from the 25th to the 31st August as a result of being knocked to the ground and kicked by a patient.

A number of other accidents to members of the Grangegorman nursing staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

9. Accidents to Staff, Portrane.—Temporary Attendant J.D. was off duty from the 15th to the 20th ultimo with septicaemia which may have been due to an injury which he received some time before when playing hurling with the Hospital team.

Attendant M.M. was off duty from the 10th to the 14th ultimo with an injury to his right ankle sustained in a fall.

Attendant A.N. was off duty on the 23rd and 24th ultimo with an injury to her left leg caused by a fall on the sports field.

A number of other accidents to members of the Portrane staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

10. On the 5th ultimo male patient W.K. (2996) impulsively struck a female visitor in the visiting hall of No. 6 division at Grangegorman. The visitor was attended to by a Medical Officer and sent home by taxi. The staff have been warned of the importance of not allowing any potentially violent patients into the dayroom on visiting days.

11. The Portrane Medical Superintendent has reported that attendances at the Psychiatric Clinic in Swords have been very few for a considerable time past. During the last six months only one patient attended and it has been decided to discontinue this clinic. The possibility of establishing a similar clinic in Balbriggan is being examined.

12. As suggested at the meeting of the Board on the 16th August, arrangements were made for a party of 400 patients to attend the Circus which was performing in the City last month. The patients greatly enjoyed the performance.

The Annual Sports were held in Portrane on Sun-

day, 26th August. They were very successful and they were greatly enjoyed by the patients.

13. The Board's Architect has reported that, since the contract for the building work in the new Female Visiting Hall at Grangegorman was placed, it has been found necessary to make certain alterations to the original plans, viz.:—

(i) The provision of extra space for the canteen, which is estimated to cost an additional £300.

(ii) Alterations necessary to comply with the fire prevention by-laws, which are estimated to cost an additional £800.

Provision for the second item was made in the loan for this scheme which the Board approved on the 20th October last, but the cost of the first item will have to be charged to the sum of £2,000 included for contingencies in the loan.

14. The Board's Consulting Engineer has reported that the contract with Messrs. McCann Ltd. for the water services installation in the Female House at Grangegorman has been completed and the final account agreed with the contractor. The final account amounting to £14,987 15s. 2d. represents an increase of £837 15s. 2d. over the contract sum, of which £644 1s. 1d. is due mainly to changes in the run of the mains found necessary during the progress of the work and overtime for work which could not be done during normal hours, and £193 14s. 1d. is due to wages increases. The building work in this scheme was carried out by direct labour and the Consulting

Engineer had already reported that the original estimate of £3,500 was likely to be exceeded by £900 owing to difficulties which were experienced while the work was in progress which were not apparent when the original estimate was made. I have requested the Consulting Engineer to submit a final statement of the total cost of this scheme.

15. In a loan of £5,500 approved by the Board in September, 1954, a sum of £2,000 was provided for replacing defective floors in Nos. 1 and 3 male division dayrooms at Grangegorman. The Clerk of Works is now in a position to undertake this work, and, as the floors are badly in need of repair, I have instructed him to proceed.

16. On the recommendation of the Board's Architect, I have accepted the quotation of Messrs. Aqua Services for stocking the aquarium tank in the Children's Division at Portrane for the sum of £40. The tank itself was installed in the course of construction of the division at a cost of £13 15s. 0d.

17. No. 19 Grangegorman Villas has been allocated to the new Deputy Head Male Nurse recently appointed, and I have approved of the addition of a bathroom on the ground floor at an estimated cost of £150.

18. The Board's Consulting Engineers have completed their examination of the tenders for a new steam boiler for Portrane and they have recommended the purchase of a boiler of rating 10,000 lbs/hr. of steam at a cost of approximately £6,700. They have recommended also that a second similar unit be

ordered to replace Lancashire boiler No. 5 which has been condemned recently for further service. I am submitting the original tenders and the Consulting Engineers' report thereon to the Department of Health for consideration.

19. The Nurses' Home at Portrane, the Medical Officers' apartments and the Gate Lodge have been valued this year for rating purposes and a demand has been received from the Dublin County Council for rates on these premises, amounting to £668. Staff houses on the estate have been rated for some years and I have asked the Board's Law Agent to advise on the desirability of appealing against the additional valuations included this year.

20. As required by Article 9 of the Public Bodies Order, 1946, I am submitting the Abstract of the Board's Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1956. When the accounts have been audited by the Local Government Auditor copies of the Abstract and the Auditor's Report thereon will be circulated to the members of the Board. In the meantime, I am having printed tables showing the revenue and expenditure for that year together with the Profit and Loss Accounts for the Farm, Gardens and Canteens. These tables will be circulated before the next meeting.

21. With reference to the resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Board about the proposal to change the names of the Board's Hospitals the Department of Health has advised me that the Board's suggestion has been noted for consideration in connection with the preparation of any bill to amend the Mental Treatment Act, 1945.

22. As requested by the Board at its meeting in July last, I am submitting particulars of the fees paid to Visiting Medical Specialists during the financial year ended 31st March, 1956, viz.:—

Surgeon	...	£38 17s. 0d.
Surgeon	...	£530 5s. 0d.
Surgeon	...	£469 7s. 0d.
Physician	...	£16 16s. 0d.
Physician	...	£3 0s. 0d.
Anaesthetist	...	£1,102 10s. 0d.
Anaesthetist	...	£4 4s. 0d.
Anaesthetist	...	£1,071 16s. 0d.
Gynaecologist	...	£64 1s. 0d.
Ear, Nose and Throat	...	£103 19s. 0d.
Dermatologist	...	£6 6s. 0d.
E.E.G. Specialist	...	£254 2s. 0d.
Brain Surgeon	...	£191 2s. 0d.
Ophthalmologist	...	£409 10s. 0d.
Child Specialist	...	£25 4s. 0d.
<hr/>		
Total	...	£4,290 19s. 0d.

23. In Paragraph 26 of my report to the meeting of the Board held on the 19th July, I reported that tenders had been obtained for the installation of one power plug in 73 staff houses at Portrane. The

lowest tender was as follows:—

V.I.R. Cable in conduit £284 5s.0d.

or

Plastic Sheathed Cable £189 5s. 0d.

or

T.R.S. Cable with timber
tubing and casing £162 4s. 6d.

The Board's Consulting Engineer recommended the second of these methods as most suitable.

At the Board's request I have obtained a supplementary tender for the installation of a second plug in each house. The cost of installing a second plug in each of the 73 houses is approximately £227 but there are 18 other houses already equipped with one plug and if they are included the cost will be increased to approximately £290. These estimates are for the installation of the second plug on the ground floor in each house—the cost of fixing a plug on the first floor is approximately £1 0s. 0d. more than on the ground floor.

In view of the urgent need for economy at present I am very strongly of opinion that the Board should undertake the installation of one power plug only in each house. Where a second plug is required, I consider it not unreasonable that the occupant should bear the additional cost.

No provision for this work has been made in the estimates for the current financial year.

24. On 17th May last the Board consented to a proposal to apply to Male Shoemakers in this service the temporary bonus granted to other employees with effect from 1st November, 1955 (which would have represented increases of 16s. 6d. a week to Foremen and 14s. 3d. a week to ordinary Shoemakers) and to increase the wages of a female boot machinist by 12s. 0d. a week from 18th February, 1956. On 1st June I was informed by the Department of Health that the temporary bonus adjustment could not be applied to tradesmen and the wages paid to these employees should be determined in the light of local rates for similar employments.

There are no outside employments in the boot and shoe trade with which the rates and conditions of the Board's shoemakers can be compared directly. Following considerable discussion with the Trade Union representing the Board's Shoemakers and having regard to the fact that the rates in one section of the boot manufacturing trade have been increased since the date of my last report, I have agreed, subject to the consent of the Board, to increase the weekly rates with effect from 1st November, 1955, as follows:—

Foremen Shoemakers by 16s. 0d. a week to
£10 7s. 6d.

Ordinary Shoemakers by 16s. 0d. a week to
£8 13s. 9d.

Female Machinists by 14s. 0d. a week to
£5 8s. 0d.

25. A similar difficulty arose in dealing with the

application for an increase made on behalf of the Board's Tailors. There have been prolonged discussions with the Trade Unions representing these employees as a result of which I have agreed, subject to the consent of the Board, to grant an increase of 12s. 10d. a week from 15th October, 1955, which is that which has been granted to Tailors in the Cap and Garment Trade in the City. The effect of this increase would be:—

Foremen Tailors increased by 12s. 10d. to
£10 15s. 3d. a week.

Tailors increased by 12s. 10d. to £9 4s. 0d.
a week.

The provision already made in the Estimates for the current financial year should be sufficient to meet the increases proposed for the Shoemakers and Tailors.

T. O BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO
BOARD.

20th September, 1956.

26. Since 11th ultimo 82 male and 68 female patients were admitted, 150. One hundred and forty-four of these were chargeable patients, of whom 69 were temporary, 53 were voluntary and 22 were Persons of Unsound Mind. There were also admitted five Private Patients, 3 temporary and 2 voluntary, and one

patient under Section 208 of the Mental Treatment Act, 1945, for special treatment from Castlereagh Mental Hospital.

27. The following are particulars of tenders for General Supplies accepted for the period of six months ended 31st March, 1957:—

	Corresponding Price October, 1955
	£ s. d.
DUBLIN MEAT SUPPLIES LTD.	
Prime Beef in sides @ £8 4 6 cwt. d/d Grangegorman and Portrane	10 12 4 cwt.
Prime wether mutton @ £8 17 4 cwt. d/d Grangegorman	10 5 4 cwt.
Sheep liver @ 3/- per lb. d/d Grangegorman	3 0 lb.
Mutton cutlets @ 2/6 per lb. d/d Grangegorman	3 3 lb.
PATRICK MURPHY LTD.	
Best creamery butter @ £19 15 2 cwt. d/d Grangegorman	19 15 2 cwt.
JOHN CLARKE & SONS LTD.	
Best creamery butter @ £19 16 6 cwt. d/d Portrane	19 16 6 cwt.
both less 5/- per box for empty boxes returned in good condition.	

CARTON BROS. LTD.

Selected hen eggs @ £1 13 2 per 120

d/d Grangegorman and (G) 1 17 6 per 120

Portrane (P) 1 16 4 per 120

MADDEN'S STORES, FINGLAS.

Pork Sausages (1 oz.) @ 2/2 per lb.

d/d Grangegorman 2s. 2d. lb.

@ 2/2½ per lb. d/d Portrane 2s. 2d. lb.

PATRICK KELLY.

Chickens @ 2/10 lb. d/d Grangegorman

3s. 0d. lb.

@ 3/- lb. d/d Portrane 3s. 0d. lb.

M. & P. HANLON LTD.

Whiting @ 11½ lb. d/d Grangegorman 11½d. lb.

@ 1/- lb. d/d Portrane 1s. 0d. lb.

CARTON BROS. LTD.

Cod @ 2/- lb. d/d Grangegorman 2s. 2d. lb.

@ 2/1 lb. d/d Portrane 2s. 3d. lb.

Haddock @ 1/2 lb. d/d Grangegorman 1s. 5d. lb.

@ 1/3 lb. d/d Portrane 1s. 6d. lb.

HILL & SONS LTD.

Woollen Yarn @ 7/6 lb. d/d Grangegorman or Amiens St. Stn. 7s. 3d. lb.

Finishing Tweed @ 1/- yd. d/d Grangegorman or Amiens St. Stn. 11d. yd.

28. The Minister for Local Government has sanctioned the raising of the loan of £27,500 for defraying part of the expenditure on the erection of the new Female Visiting Hall and Pharmacy at Grangegorman, and he has obtained the authority of the Minister for Finance for the issue of the loan from the Local Loans Fund. The loan is repayable on the instalment system over a period of 30 years with interest at the general rate in force under Section 12 of the Local Loans Fund Act, 1935. I hope to have the Deed of Mortgage for completion at the next meeting of the Board.

T. O BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:

Paragraph 12. The Secretaries of the Sports Committee and of the Bowling Clubs are to be congratulated on the very satisfactory manner in which the Annual Sports and the Annual Bowling Competition were organised this year.

Paragraph 13.—Noted.

Paragraph 17.—Noted. Estimate to be submitted of the cost of installing bathrooms in the other staff houses at Grangegorman.

Paragraph 20.—Noted.

Paragraph 23.—Noted.

Paragraphs 24 and 25.—Proposed by Mr. T. O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor B. Conway:—"That the Board consents to the increases in the remuneration of shoemakers (including female machinist) and tailors, proposed by the Manager." *Passed unanimously.*

NOTICE OF MOTION.

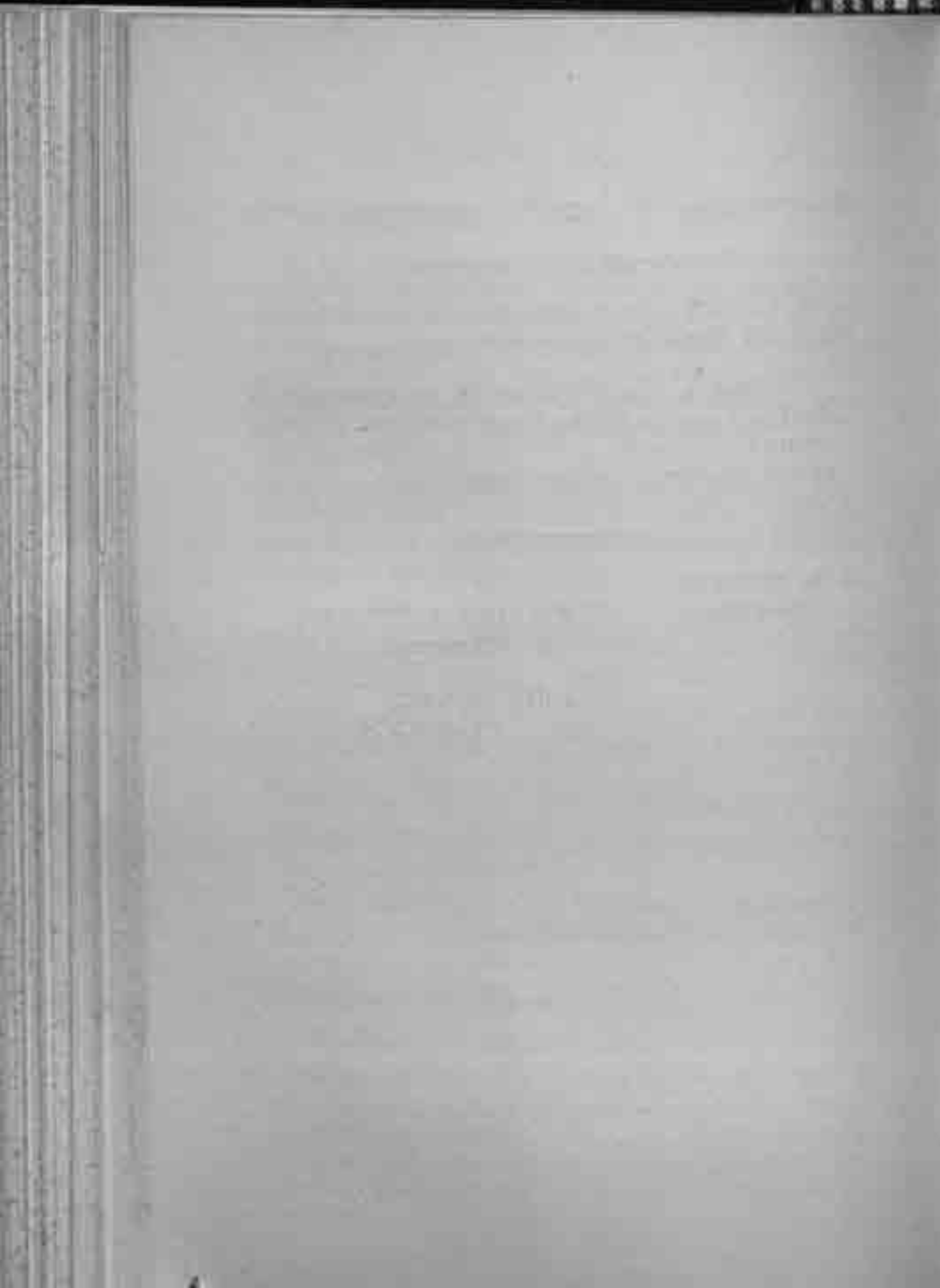
Mr. T. O'Reilly gave notice that, at the next meeting of the Board he would move:—

"That a special Committee be appointed to draft and submit for the Board's approval standing orders governing the procedure at meetings of Committees appointed by the Board."

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk,

WILLIAM J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.



Report No. 272.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 27th day of September, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present: Councillors James Andrews, Gilbert Hughes, William Lawless, Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Thomas O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

CONDOLENCE.

Councillor W. J. Colman proposed and Mr. T. O'Reilly seconded: "That we learn with deep regret of the loss which Mr. John Smithers has sustained in the death of his sister and we tender to him and his family our sincerest sympathy."

The resolution was adopted in silence, all present standing.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.

27th September, 1956.

1. Since my last report of 23rd ultimo, milk supplies have remained steady, but there is still a deficiency amounting to approximately 87 gallons per day over the last month. This shortage is likely to continue for some further period. Consumption has recently increased by 13 gallons per day, bringing the total consumption for both hospitals now to 565 gallons per day. No dairy stock was purchased and it is not intended to do so.

The present daily average yield from 237 cows is 2.05 gallons. The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of last month:—

	<i>This month</i>	<i>Last month</i>
Over 5 gallons	—	1
4—5	16	16
3—4	35	40
2—3	70	79
1—2	72	77
Under 1 gallon	44	22
Total	237	235

2. The following is a table of (a) purchases (b) sales of livestock during the month of August

	Total Cost	Average per Beast
(a) 61 sheep	£385 1 0	£6 6 3

(b) 20 calves were sold at the following prices:—

1 at £3.12.0, 2 at £4.0.0, 5 at £5.0.0, 1 at £6, 2 at £7, 3 at £9, 1 at £10, 2 at £10.7.6, 1 at £11, 1 at £13, 1 at £15; total £153.7.0. 6 bonhams were sold at £6 each; total £36.0.0. 18 store pigs were transferred to Grangegorman at £7.15.0 each; total £139.10.0.

3. Mastitis: The position with regard to mastitis in the herd is satisfactory. Nine cases of mastitis of which six were clinical and three were summer, have occurred during the month. The cows with summer mastitis failed to respond to treatment and each cow lost one quarter. All the clinical cases responded to the usual treatment.

4. *Crops.*—The digging of approximately 4½ acres of the early potatoes in the recently flooded swamp fields was completed with difficulty. The approximate loss due to the recent floods would be 20 tons of ware potatoes. To date a total of 22½ acres of the crop have been dug, giving an average yield of approximately 9 tons per acre, not taking into account the loss in the swamp fields. The third spraying of the potato crop was completed on 29th August, but shortly afterwards a severe strike of blight hit the whole crop, which rendered a further spraying useless. A second flooding occurred in early September, which has apparently damaged the growing crop generally. Present indications are that a portion of the crop will be lost due to the wet condition of the soil, coupled with blight. The extent of the damage cannot be estimated at present. Fortunately the greater portion of the crop was planted on fairly dry ground.

Approximately 30 acres of hay was cut during the month, of which 14 acres have been saved

to date. A further 16 acres of the hay crop remains to be cut. The greater portion of the crop has been stored on all farms. A certain amount of loss occurred in the cocks due to the rains and flooding. To date 14 tons of hay has been purchased at from £7 to £10 per ton.

Owing to the poor hay-making weather for the past month, it was deemed advisable to put portion of the grass crop into silage. A spare pit was available at Ballymastone farm and this is now about half filled; it is hoped to complete it in the near future, sufficient supplies of grass being available for the purpose.

The harvesting of the corn crops commenced on 24th August. To date 39 statute acres of winter wheat has been cut, which yielded 18.9 barrels of green wheat per acre—30.6 barrels per Irish acre (map measurement). This is the highest yield ever obtained from a winter variety of wheat on the farms. 9 acres of spring wheat (Karn II) has been cut, giving a total of 69 acres cut, leaving 65 acres of wheat still to be cut. 25 acres of barley have been cut, yielding approximately 18 barrels of green barley per statute acre. No serious damage has occurred to the corn crops, although the yield of straw will be much below average, principally due to the excessive growth of young grass and clover in the crop, which necessitates higher cutting than usual.

6. *Santry Court*: The storing of the hay crop in the shed at Santry Court is now completed. There was a few tons of wastage here on the tops and bottoms of cocks due to the heavy rain. The shed is

well filled and with reasonable weather over the winter, there should be sufficient hay for all stock kept at this farm. With the after-grass now available, there should be sufficient grass to maintain the present stock for some time. Twenty strong calves were recently transferred from Turvey to Santry Court; these are housed at night and are receiving a small quantity of concentrates and a little hay. All the calves have stood up well to the hoose attack and although some are coughing, they are sufficiently strong to withstand the ravages of the hoose worm. The two-year-old friesian bull was transferred from Turvey to this farm on the 19th instant and is now running with a batch of heifers.

The present stock at Santry comprises 1 horse, 78 calves, 45 one-year-old heifers, 30 two-year-old heifers and 1 bull.

JAMES HAYES,
Agricultural Manager.

Orders made thereon:

Paragraph 1.—Noted.

*Paragraph 2.—*Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless, seconded by Mr. T. O'Reilly:—"That the Minister for Agriculture be asked to receive a deputation to explain the difficulties arising in the management of the pig herds at Grangegorman and Portrane from the present restrictions on the movement of pigs." Passed unanimously. The following were nominated members of the deputation—Councillors W. J. Colman and William Lawless, Mr. T. O'Broin, Manager and Mr. James Hayes, Agricultural Manager.

Paragraphs 3 to 6.—Noted.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER, PORTRANE.

27th September, 1956.

1. *Vegetable Fields*.—Work carried out in these fields during the past month consisted of grubbing and earthing 14 acres of brassicas, weeding and thinning 2 acres swede turnips, 1 acre carrots and sowing $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of tripoli onions. Owing to the wet condition of the soil, very little tillage or row-crop work was carried out; consequently only half of the vegetable crop was grubbed and earthed.

Spring Onions.—This crop is adversely affected by the heavy rainfall during the past three months. Under more normal conditions, spring onions should be fit for harvesting before the end of September. Unfortunately, the present crop is still in the green stage and about 35% of the crop is affected with onion mildew.

Spring Cabbage Plants: Up to date two acres have been planted; during the corresponding period of last year, six acres were planted.

2. *Kitchen Gardens and Recreation Grounds*.—Work carried out in these sections during the past month is as follows: - sowing cabbage and lettuce, earthing celery, taking geranium cuttings, picking apples and general upkeep of recreation grounds and flower beds.

GRANGEGORMAN.

3. Work carried out in this department consisted of earthing celery, planting cabbage, sowing lettuce, taking cuttings and general care of recreation grounds and flower beds.

A. WOLOHAN,

Head Gardener.

Order—Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE FARMS
AND GARDENS.

6th September, 1956.

1. We inspected the Farms and Gardens at Portrane, Turvey and Ballymastone on the 6th September.

Due to appalling weather conditions our inspection had to be restricted and our report isn't very pleasant reading.

At Turvey we were shown some of our cleaned wheat of the Chappelle variety and considering the bad year the sample was very good indeed. The overall picture at Turvey was very depressing and unless the weather improves we must face heavy losses in our corn and potato crops.

In previous reports we have mentioned the Front Lodge at Turvey and we are of opinion that part of the plot should be taken from this lodge and that the person residing there should be requested to pay more attention to the general tidiness of this house and garden.

2. Ballymastone had many water-soaked fields. We noticed one excellent meadow and were informed when we made enquiries that we had roughly 70 acres of meadowing to save. We immediately suggested that it would be advisable to make silage of the greater portion and we hope this has been done.

3. At Portrane we observed that a start had been made on our new potato house and we hope good

progress has been made.

The pigs didn't appear to be up to the usual standard but we understand they have suffered somewhat with scour and we are confident it is only a temporary set back.

4. We inspected the reclaimed field and we were very impressed with its appearance.

5. The apple crop in the gardens looks splendid but we are afraid we will lose most of the onion crop while we have already lost some acres of savoy, due to flooding.

6. We fully realise the difficult job our Farm and Garden Managers and staff have during this very difficult year and we appreciate their efforts to save as much of our crops as they possibly can.

We thank Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Wolohan for their help on our inspection.

W. COLMAN.

J. SMITHERS.

M. ENNIS.

W. LAWLESS.

Order.—Noted.

Agricultural Committee. 271 27th September, 1956

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's farms and gardens during the ensuing period to 25th October, date of next meeting of Committee:

Councillor W. J. Colman.

„ James Andrews.

Mr. A. Lalor.

Mr. T. O'Reilly.

WILLIAM J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES

REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF PHYSICS

FOR THE YEAR 1900-1901
AND THE YEAR 1901-1902

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1902

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Report No. 273.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 18th day of October, 1956, Councillor William J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. The following members were also present:—

City of Dublin Representatives:—Alderman Mrs. Celia Lynch, Councillors Kevin Boland, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Bernard Conway, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Thomas Stafford, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, William Chase, Roland Roulston, Thomas O'Reilly and John Smithers.

County Dublin Representatives:—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, James Andrews and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representative:—Councillor William Lawless.

An apology was received from Councillor P. J. Bermingham for his inability to attend.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 271 of the 20th September, 1956) were confirmed and issued.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 30th September, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
On Hospital Register at 31st August, 1956	1,803	2,120	3,923
Admitted during month	57	55	112
	<hr/> 1,860	<hr/> 2,175	<hr/> 4,035

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Discharged during month	79	69	148
Died during month	6	8	14
	<hr/> 85	<hr/> 77	<hr/> 162
Remaining on Hospital Register	1,775	2,098	3,873
Absent on trial and escape	37	42	79
Remaining in residence	<hr/> 1,738	<hr/> 2,056	<hr/> 3,794

DISTRIBUTION

In Grangegorman	...	775	1,178	1,953
In Portrane	...	963	878	1,841
Total number resident as above		<hr/> 1,738	<hr/> 2,056	<hr/> 3,794

CHARGEABILITY

City of Dublin	...	2,879
County Dublin	...	512
County Wicklow	...	343
Criminal Lunatics	...	41
Non-district patients	...	19
Total	...	<hr/> 3,794

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed and Councillor Gilbert Hughes seconded the adoption of Report No. 272 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 27th September, 1956. *Passed unanimously.*

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN.

26th September, 1956.

1. We carried out an inspection at Grangegorman Mental Hospital on Wednesday, 26th September, 1956.

Our first call was to the Laundry where excellent work was being turned out by the patients.

2. From the Laundry we proceeded to Division 25 where we saw everything looking spick and span.

The Day Room in No. 25, which has been re-decorated recently, shows signs of dampness again. Perhaps the building being such an old one, will always show such signs.

3. We went into the Kitchen and saw preparations being made to serve lunch. The meal was of excellent quality, consisting of cold meat, peas, potatoes, custard and stewed apples.

4. In the Dining Room and the rooms with small tables we spoke to some of the patients who were enjoying their meal.

We heard a few complaints but some patients said everything was of the best.

5. No. 24 Division Visiting Hall looks rather dirty—we wonder when it is due for re-painting.

6. The patients in No. 11 Division seemed to be enjoying a good meal when we entered the Dining

Room. The use of small tables for meals is one of the best ideas which has been put into practice in the hospital.

7. The fresh, spotlessly clean appearance of the wards in No. 18 Female Division is a credit to the Hospital; all the patients were comfortable and contented.

We spoke to a few patients in the Refractory Division and received no complaints.

8. In the Male Therapy rooms, stock-taking was in progress and we saw some fine samples of basket making and lampshade making and some pictures which were neatly framed.

9. In Male Division Nos. 1 and 3, we saw the floors in very bad condition and reported the matter at once to the Clerk of Works. We were told that a new floor will be put down next week.

We are very grateful to Miss Sharkey and Deputy Head Attendant McAllister for their courtesy and kindness in showing us around.

WILLIAM COLMAN.

WILLIAM CHASE.

CATHERINE BYRNE.

KATHLEEN NIX.

Orders made thereon:—See Manager's General Report.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

28th September, 1956.

1. Accompanied by Dr. Hegarty and Head Male Nurse Beegan, we visited the kitchen where food was being prepared and then the dining hall where 470 meals were being served. The organisation and service was all that could be desired. We noticed that the potatoes served were unpeeled and we are of the opinion that, because of the exceptional amount of waste, it would be more economical to have them peeled. We would like a report to be submitted as to the feasibility of doing so. The total consumption per day, we understand, is approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons.

2. We visited the Male Hospital and various division where all the patients looked comfortable and well cared for. The divisions were well kept, clean and airy. In No. 5 (Refractory) Division the introduction of a new drug has helped to a remarkable degree in restoring the patients to a more normal state of health, as evidenced by their quieter demeanour.

3. We inspected the meat in store and found it of excellent quality, well handled and well hung.

4. In visiting the kitchen yard we noticed that there could be a higher degree of cleanliness around the potato washer and peeler and that an improved system of drainage would eradicate the accumulation of mud.

5. We inspected the new insulated van for the delivery of meals to the various divisions and were impressed by the sectional lay-out which is of a very high standard and should eliminate cause for complaint.

We wish to thank Dr. Hegarty for his help during our visit.

W. J. COLMAN (Chairman).

ANTHONY LALOR.

WILLIAM LAWLESS.

JAMES ANDREWS.

Orders made thereon:—See Manager's General Report.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to 15th November, date of next meeting of the Board: —

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

„ Gilbert Hughes.

Mr. John Cahill.

Mr. Thomas O'Reilly.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

„ Mrs. Catherine Byrne.

„ Mrs. M. Mulvey.

„ Mrs. K. Nix.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD

12th October, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospitals on the 9th instant 3805 patients, viz:—

	Males	Females	Total
Grangegorman ...	777	1,187	1,964
Portrane ...	954	887	1,841
	<hr/> 1,731	<hr/> 2,074	<hr/> 3,805

as compared with:—

9th October, 1955 ...	1,743	2,073	3,816
9th October, 1954 ...	1,738	2,046	3,784
9th October, 1953 ...	1,710	2,056	3,766
9th October, 1952 ...	1,652	2,003	3,655

this year's number being 11 less than on the corresponding date last year and 150 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. On the 19th ultimo male patient S.M. (10499), a liberty patient escaped off the grounds at Grangegorman at tea time. He returned of his own accord the same evening.

Male patient K.H. (10561), a voluntary patient, did not come back off pass on the evening of the 4th instant but returned the following day.

4. *Accidents to Patients.* On the 11th August female patient E.B. (8049) in Grangegorman accidentally caught the little finger of her right hand between two seats and fractured it.

No serious accidents to patients in Portrane during the past month were reported.

5. *Accidents to Staff, Grangegorman.* Temporary female Attendant E.B. has been off duty since 30th September with an injury to her back when lifting cans of tea in No. 24 Division.

Attendant M.H. was off duty from the 28th September to the 6th October, inclusive, with an injury over his right eye caused by a blow from a patient.

Female Attendant K.S. was off duty from the 15th to 17th September, inclusive, with a scalded arm sustained when on duty in No. 22 Division kitchen.

J.C., Plasterer, was off duty from the 18th to 24th September with a scalded right hand and forearm sustained when boiling water for tea during dinner hour.

T.S. Slater, was off duty from the 28th September to the 4th October as a result of a cycle accident when going to work.

A number of other accidents to members of the Grangegorman staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

6. *Accidents to Staff, Portrane.*—Charge Nurse J.O'R. was off duty on the 7th September following an attack by a patient who knocked her down, kicked her, threw a pot of hot tea over her and pulled her hair.

P.F. a temporary farm employee injured his back while milking on the 12th September and was off duty for the day.

J.McH. temporary farm worker injured his head

and shoulder on the 25th September, when he fell off a tractor trailer at Turvey Farm and he has been off duty since that date.

A number of other accidents to members of the Portrane staff are reported which did not cause incapacity.

7. With reference to the report of an Inspection carried out at Grangegorman on the 26th September by Councillors Colman, Byrne and Nix and Mr. Chase, I have to report:—

Item 2: The damp patches observed in the Day-room of No. 25 Division are caused by condensation from the black stone of which many of the buildings at Grangegorman were built and there does not appear to be any remedy.

Item 5: The Visiting Hall in No. 24 Division is due for redecoration next year.

Item 9: Work on the replacement of floors in the Dayrooms of Nos. 1 and 3 Divisions has been put in hands this week.

8. With reference to the report of an Inspection at Portrane carried out by Councillors Colman and Timmons and Messrs. O'Reilly and Chase, on the 22nd August, I have to report:—

Item 1: The new equipment in No. 8 Division Kitchen was installed as a temporary measure to meet the demands created by the opening of the two new units. It is intended to centralise all cooking in the main kitchen and for that reason the temporary installation of the additional equipment in No. 8 kitchen was carried out as cheaply as possible. The Electric Fryer is now in use and it is a necessary

piece of equipment to provide variety in cooking for patients and staff. It is particularly useful for frying eggs for breakfast. The Visiting Members comment about the dirty condition of the new equipment would appear to refer to one of the new cooking boilers which had just been installed and which had not then been used—there was some deposit in the bottom of the boiler which had not been removed after installation. It is understood that the Visiting Members commented also on the condition of the range but as the Inspection was carried out during dinner hour, the cleaning of the range would not have been carried out until later.

Item 2: I have approved of a recommendation of the Chief Engineer that a handrail and concrete ramp be provided at one exit from No. 8 Female Division. The gulleys in the vicinity of this Division have been cleaned.

Item 3: The rear of No. 10 Female Division was somewhat untidy because it had been used by workmen engaged on constructional work. The greater part of the rubbish has been cleared away and I have approved of a recommendation of the Chief Engineer that the roadway at the side of the Division be covered with asphalt at a cost of approximately £60.

The number of patients in the Children's Division had been more than eleven but certain children were found unsuitable for that division and had to be moved elsewhere. The division was planned to accommodate a maximum of 20 patients.

Item 5: Efforts made to sell by contract the timber logs in the Workshop Yard met with a very poor response. The Chief Engineer proposes to cut some

of the timber into blocks with a view to determining whether they can be sold at an economic price.

9. With reference to the report of an Inspection at Portrane carried out by Councillors Colman, Andrews and Lawless and Mr. Lalor on the 28th September, I have to report:—

Item 1: It is possible that the peeling of potatoes before cooking would result in some economy but it would be necessary to purchase potato peeling equipment and to provide a suitable location for such equipment where the waste material from the peeling operation could be disposed of readily. I propose to examine this question further when I am next in Portrane and also the matter raised in Item 4 of the Visiting Members' report.

10. With reference to the enquiry made at the last meeting of the Board, the Clerk of Works estimates that the cost of installing bathrooms in 35 staff houses at Grangegorman would be in the region of £5,000. He points out that this figure can only be regarded as a very approximate estimate—it would be necessary to have a complete survey of the houses made before an accurate estimate could be given. After discussing the matter with the Clerk of Works, I am of the opinion that the figure quoted would be the minimum cost.

11. Further to Paragraph 11 of my report of the 14th September, the Dublin County Council has agreed to provide accommodation in the Dispensary at Balbriggan for a Mental Health Clinic. It is proposed to hold the clinics on two days a month and the Minister for Health has been asked to approve.

12. The Board's Consulting Engineer has reported

that in carrying out the scheme for the centralisation of heating and hot water services on the Male Side at Grangegorman, it has been found necessary to form a concrete pipe duct in the yard behind the male kitchen instead of the trench originally provided for. This change was necessitated by the condition of the various drains in the area which are in poor repair and liable to continuous leakage and a concrete duct is essential to provide drainage points to carry away underground seepage.

It has been found necessary also to undertake part of the work which it had been intended to include in the scheme for improvement of water supplies on the Male Side—this work consists of the provision of hot water cold feeds and heating expansion tanks and their supports. The Consulting Engineer estimates that these extra works, which will be carried out by direct labour, will cost approximately £500. A sum of £713 is included in the loan for the scheme to meet contingencies of this nature.

13. On the recommendation of the Clerk of Works and Chief Engineer, I have accepted the following tenders for the supply of fuels to Grangegorman and Portrane, respectively:—

McHENRY BROS. LTD. for the supply of Turf Briquettes at £4 10s. 0d. per ton delivered Grangegorman and £4 13s. per ton delivered Portrane. Machine Turf at 71/6d. per ton delivered Grangegorman and 74/6d. per ton delivered Portrane.

P. DONNELLY & SONS LTD. for 35 tons Welsh Anthracite Beans at £11 2s. 2d. per ton ex ship or £11 8s. 2d. per ton ex yard.

P. DONNELLY & SONS LTD. for 250 tons of Scotch Steam Coal at £7 4s. 7d. per ton delivered Grangegorman.

T. J. NICHOLL & SON LTD. for 20 tons of Ballingarry Anthracite Nuts at £11 16s. 6d. per ton delivered Portrane.

DUBIN GAS COMPANY for 50 tons Large Coke at £8 17s. 6d. per ton delivered Portrane.

14. I have accepted also the following tenders for General Supplies required during the period ending 31st March, 1957:—

DROGHEDA OATMEAL MILLING Co. LTD. for Flake Meal at £57 0s. 0d. per ton delivered Grangegorman and Portrane.

McGRATH BROS. LTD. for Granulated Sugar at 59/- per cwt. delivered Grangegorman and Portrane.

IRISH DIRECT TRADING Co. LTD. for Soda Water, Ginger Ale, etc.

Large Size @ 6/9d. per dozen.

Medium size @ 3/9d. per dozen.

Small Size @ 3/- per dozen.

Syphons @ 16/- per dozen.

P. J. NEA & SON for Jacob's Biscuits at retail list price, less 15% less 10%, delivered Grangegorman or at Amiens Street Station for Portrane.

15. I have been informed by the Electricity Supply Board that, following the recent general increase in the Board's rates of charge for electricity, the interim

rate for a supply to Portrane Mental Hospital will be increased as follows:—

Fixed Charge from £225 to £248 per two monthly period

Unit Rate from 1d. to 1.1d. per unit both with effect from and including the November/December, 1956 accounting period.

The general increase in rates will, of course, apply to electricity supplied at flat rate to Grangegorman.

16. The Minister for Local Government has sanctioned the raising by the Board of the following loans and he has obtained the authority of the Minister for Finance for the issue of them from the Local Loans Fund:—

Amount of Loan	Purpose	Period for re-payment
£27,000	New Female Visiting Hall and Pharmacy at Grangegorman	30 years
£34,000	Centralisation of steam heating and hot water services on the Male Side at Grangegorman	35 years
£20,000	Change over to E.S.B. supply and New Kitchen Equipment, Portrane	25 years

In the case of the second and third loans, the Board had approved of a proposal to repay these sums over a period of 30 years but there appears to be no objection to the revised periods for repayment sanctioned by the Minister. I hope to have the Deeds of Mortgage for submission to the meeting of the Board on the 18th instant.

T. O'BROIN,
Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO
BOARD.

18th October, 1956.

17. Since 17th ultimo 49 male and 56 female patients were admitted, total 105. One hundred and four of these were chargeable patients, of whom 60 were temporary, 33 voluntary and 11 persons of unsound mind. One person of unsound mind was admitted as a Private Patient.

18. I have circulated copies of Printed Report No. 270 which gives details of the Board's Receipts and Expenditure for year ended 31st March, 1956, the Farm and Garden Accounts and the Canteen Accounts.

Expenditure for the year totalled £814,217, which was £60,015 in excess of the original estimate but additional expenditure amounting to £114,083 was specially authorised by the Board during the year.

Details of the increases and decreases under the various heads of expenditure are set out in Table II of Report No. 270. The reasons for the increases and decreases under:—

Salaries and Wages	£110,210 increase
Heating, lighting and water supply	£ 10,431 increase
Superannuations, etc.	£ 9,710 increase
Food, drink and tobacco	£ 46,804 decrease
Clothing and bedding	£ 13,110 decrease

are due largely to the reasons set out in detail in my report on the Estimates for the current financial year. The decrease under Farm Expenses is due mainly to the decision to buy beef by contract for Portrane from 1st October, 1955.

Total Receipts at £114,645 were £34,345 in excess of the estimate. Receipts from Paying Patients were £2,499 more than estimated but £6,412 less than in 1954/55. Receipts from other sources are £26,843 over the estimate but this is due mainly to increased superannuation contributions and deductions from salaries in respect of goods and services supplied to the staff arising from the introduction of inclusive salary scales in April, 1955.

The Daily Average number of patients during the year was 3,792, an increase of 24 over 1954/55. The average daily cost per patient was 11s. 8.45d. as compared with 10s. 3.37d. for 1954/55.

Grangegorman Farm and Garden Accounts shows a profit of £1,864 as against £1,308 for the previous year.

Portrane Farm Account shows a profit of £7,306, as compared with £3,034 for 1954/55.

Portrane Garden Account shows a profit of £1,354 which is £100 less than that of the previous year.

The Canteen Account Sales amounted to £21,441 and the net profit was £2,738, as compared with £18,598 and £2,274, respectively, in 1954/55.

19. In January last I reported that the amount of Fire Insurance cover on the Board's property at Grangegorman and Portrane had been increased by 20 per cent. pending a survey of the separate buildings and their contents with a view to determining the present valuation for fire insurance purposes.

The Board's Architect has completed the survey of the buildings and I have adopted his recommendation that the amount of fire insurance cover on the

buildings be increased from £3,133,698 to £4,057,729. The additional cover of £924,031 will involve an increase of £404 5s. 0d. on the present annual premium of £1,592 7s. 6d.

It is proposed to carry out a survey of the contents of the various buildings in the near future.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:

Par. 10. For further consideration in connection with the Estimates for 1957/58.

Par. 16. Proposed by Councillor William Lawless, seconded by Mr. Thomas O'Reilly "That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the repayment of the sum of £27,500 (Twenty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Pounds), proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Mental Treatment Act, 1945." *Passed unanimously.*

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Mulvey, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Catherine Byrne "That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the repayment of the sum of £34,000 (Thirty Four

Thousand Pounds), proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Mental Treatment Act, 1945." *Passed unanimously.*

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Catherine Byrne, seconded by Councillor Bernard Conway "That our Corporate Seal be affixed to the Deed of Mortgage of this date now read, whereby security is given to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland for the repayment of the sum of £20,000 (Twenty Thousand Pounds), proposed to be advanced by them to us under the Mental Treatment Act, 1945." *Passed unanimously.*

Par. 19. Proposed by Councillor William Lawless, seconded by Mr. John Cahill, "That the Manager be authorised to expend a sum of £168 in excess of the amount provided in the official Estimate and Demand for 1956/57, for the purpose of obtaining increased fire insurance cover on the Board's premises. *Passed unanimously.*

NOTICE OF MOTION.

In accordance with Notice, Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed "That a special Committee be appointed to draft and submit for the Board's approval standing orders governing the procedure at meetings of Committees appointed by the Board." The proposal was seconded by Councillor William Lawless and was adopted unanimously.

The following were appointed members of the Special Committee:—

Councillor W. J. Colman.

„ D. Larkin.

„ William Lawless.

„ Mrs. Mary Mulvey.

„ E. Timmons.

Mr. John Cahill.

Mr. T. O'Reilly.

It was decided that the date for the first meeting of the Committee would be fixed at the Board Meeting on the 15th November.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF THE HISTORY OF ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE

OFFICE OF THE CURATOR

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1911

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

AND TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Report No. 274.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 25th day of October, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present: Councillors Gilbert Hughes, William Lawless, Eugene Timmons, Messrs. William Chase, Anthony Lalor, Thomas O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed and Councillor E. Timmons seconded:—"That we learn with great regret of the illness of our colleague, Councillor James Andrews, and wish him a speedy restoration to health." Passed unanimously.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.

1. Since the last meeting an opportunity arose for the purchase of a number of good Shorthorn milch cows from the herd at Crooksling Sanatorium Farm. A total of 20 cows was secured, 18 of them in milk and the other two forward springers. These were the pick of the herd and proven milkers, two of them having a record of over 1,000 gallons and the majority of the others varying from 600 to 900 gallons. As there was a shortage of milk varying up to 90 gallons per day, I deemed it advisable to avail of the opportunity of procuring these cows, which have the added advantage of being from an established T.T. herd. The total cost of the 20 cows was £1,066, an average of £53 6s. 0d. per cow. With the purchase of these cows, milk supplies have increased considerably, showing only a small deficiency at the moment. This small deficiency is being met by the purchase of pasturised milk as heretofore.

The present daily average yield from 243 cows is 2.21 gallons. The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of last month:—

		<i>This month</i>	<i>Last month</i>
Over 6 gallons	...	1	—
5—6	...	5	—
4—5	...	23	16
3—4	...	47	35
2—3	...	73	70
1—2	...	62	72
Under 1 gallon	...	32	44
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	243	237

2. The following is a table of (a) purchases (b) sales of livestock during the month of September:—

	Total Cost	Average per Beast
(a) 24 sheep	£185 11 0	£7 14 8

(b) 19 calves were sold at the following prices: 1 at £4, 4 at £5, 8 at £5 10s, 1 at £8 1s. 0d., 3 at £9, 1 at £10 and 1 at £15; total £128 1s. 0d. 10 bonhams were sold at the following prices, 4 at £6 10s. and 6 at £6 15s. 0d.; Total £66 10s. 0d. 2 fat sows were sold for £72 1s. 4d. 16 store pigs were sold to Crookslings Sanatorium for £7 5s. 0d. each delivered; total £116.

3. *Mastitis*: The position with regard to mastitis continues to be satisfactory. There were no cases at Ballymastone, a few clinical cases at Portrane and two chronic cases at Turvey, resulting in the loss of the affected quarters. In one of these cases it was due to injury to the teat; the other case was due to a severe attack of cow-pock. The few cases of clinical mastitis responded to the usual treatment.

4. *Crops*: The digging of the potato crop continues and to date a total of 33 acres have been dug, giving an average yield of approximately 9 tons to the acre. The last few acres of British Queens dug showed a portion of blighted tubers. This variety is very susceptible to this disease, while the very wet season also added to this trouble. Only two acres of the main crop have been dug so far at Ballymastone farm, which gave a good crop. Present indications are that there will be a considerable loss in some of the fields at Turvey Farm, due to the very wet season. Rotting has occurred in the bottom of the

drills in several places. The full extent of the damage will not be ascertained until the crop is lifted.

The cutting of the hay was completed on 11st instant. The remaining portion of the hay crop, a total of sixteen acres, was cut and saved, with a further sixteen acres cut last month. All the hay at Ballymastone, Turvey and Santry Court has been stored, but twenty acres of the last saved hay at Portrane still remains to be stored. I estimate that approximately 450 tons of hay has been saved during the season.

The filling of the silo pit at Ballymastone was completed and sealed off. A total of 24 acres of grass was cut for this pit, which should give approximately 150 tons of silage.

The harvesting of the corn crops was completed on 16th instant. The majority of the crop was suitable for milling and accepted. The latter portion of the crop was sold to the North City Milling Company. Approximately 100 barrels was unsuitable for milling and this is being dried for feeding on the farms. I am not in a position at present to give the exact yield from the crop, as all returns are not yet in from the mills. Owing to over-ripeness, there is some loss in grain from the last two fields, which were cut. The yield from straw is also very much reduced due to high cutting and breaking up due to over-ripeness. As a result, a considerable amount of straw requires to be purchased.

5. *Grass:* Grass supplies on all farms have been well maintained over the month. A start has been

made to housing the fresh calved and heavy milking cows on all farms. Grass supplies should be sufficient to give grazing by day on all farms for some time to come.

6. *Santry Court*: A heifer at Santry Court was losing condition, and had been under observation and treated by the Veterinary Surgeon, who advised her slaughter. A Post Mortem revealed extensive T.B. of the lungs. This carcase was examined by the Veterinary Surgeon, who certified it as fit for human consumption. All the animals at Santry Court were immediately put on test, which resulted in a further six reactors being found. These were removed to Portrane for slaughter for beef. As a further precaution 73 young animals at Turvey, recently received from Santry Court, were tested and I am glad to say all passed.

With the after-grass, there has been ample supplies available for all stock to date, but the quantity available after the end of the current month will be rather scarce. Present indications are that early foddering will have to be resorted to on this farm. To date 20 calves are housed at night, and are receiving a small allowance of hay and concentrates. All young stock have recovered from the hoose attack.

The present stock at Santry Court comprises 1 horse, 78 calves, 42 yearling heifers, 26 two-year-old heifers and 1 bull.

JAMES HAYES,

Agricultural Manager.

Order: Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION—FARMS AND
GARDENS.

1. We visited Portrane on Wednesday, 3rd October, and were met at Turvey by Mr. Vaughan, Farmyard Foreman. All the cattle were out and the byres were being cleaned. We noted that some of the damaged hay was being used for bedding. We understand that some of the cattle at Santry Court, that were in contact with the heifer destroyed last week, are being tested to-day.

2. At Ballymastone we saw the boys walking in some silage. The calves and dairy cows are in excellent health. Some wheat was being cut by combine. Its condition was very fair.

3. In the farmyard we were advised by Mr. Vaughan not to visit the piggeries because of the swine fever outbreak in the City and we were very grateful for the reminder. The potato shed is ahead of schedule and there appears to be ample room in the machine store now.

4. In the gardens we noted that only three acres of spring cabbage have been planted owing to the slow growth of plants. In the corresponding period last year 8 acres were planted. One of the glass-houses is uncovered and we were informed that the suppliers were slow in fulfilling their contract. This is serious at this time of year as a large number of indoor plants such as 3,000 geranium cuttings, etc., require shelter and heat.

5. The gathering of apples is in progress. The Head Gardener informed us that over 4 tons of wind-falls were gathered over the weekend; these are being used up at present. The crop is very large and the number of suitable patients available is small.

We wish to thank Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Wolohan for their help during the visit.

WILLIAM J. COLMAN.
ANTHONY LALOR.
THOMAS O'REILLY.
JAMES ANDREWS.

Order: Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 22nd November, date of next meeting of the Committee:—

Councillor W. J. Colman.
" Gilbert Hughes.
" E. Timmons.
Mr. W. Chase.

WILLIAM J. COLMAN,
Chairman.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

Report No. 275.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

BOARD MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 15th day of November, 1956, Councillor William J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. The following members were also present.

City of Dublin Representatives:—Councillors Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Bernard Conway, Denis Delaney, Gilbert Hughes, Dr. Christopher A. Macken, Mrs. Kathleen Nix, P.C., Thomas Stafford, P.C., Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, William Chase, John Jones, Anthony Lalor, Roland Roulston, Liam Gaynor, Thomas O'Reilly and John Smithers.

County Dublin Representatives:—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews, P.C., and Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives:—Councillors W. Lawless and P. McCarthy.

An apology was received from Alderman Thomas Byrne for his inability to attend.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 273 of the 18th October, 1956) were confirmed and signed.

Arising out of the minutes it was agreed:—

(1) That the first meeting of the Special Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Board would be held on Thursday, the 17th January, 1957.

(2) That the next monthly meeting of the Board would be held on the 13th December, 1956.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 31st October, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
On Hospital Register at 30th			
September, 1956 ...	1,775	2,098	3,873
Admitted during month ...	65	52	117
	1,840	2,150	3,990
<i>Males Females Total</i>			
Discharged			
during month 76	71	147	
Died during			
month ... 5	6	11	
Escaped do. —	—	—	81 77 158
Remaining on Hospital Register	1,759	2,073	3,832
Absent on trial and escape	25	23	48
Remaining in residence ...	1,734	2,050	3,784

DISTRIBUTION

In Grangegorman	...	766	1,180	1,946
In Portrane	...	968	870	1,838
Total number resident as above		1,734	2,050	3,784

CHARGEABILITY

City of Dublin	...	...	2,864
County Dublin	...	...	518
County Wicklow	...	...	340
Criminal Lunatics	...	...	41
Non-district patients	...	...	21
Total			3,784

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Mr. T. O'Reilly proposed and Councillor William Lawless seconded the adoption of Report No. 274 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 25th October, 1956. *Passed unanimously.*

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN

1st November, 1956.

1. We inspected the Stores and were very pleased with the appearance of the place and the manner in which the great variety of stores is kept.

2. Accompanied by the Matron, Miss Sharkey, we visited the Female Hospital and inspected the wards, dayrooms, kitchen and the food in course of preparation. The efficiency and general appearance of the whole place reflects great credit on all concerned.

We visited Divisions Nos. 15, 17 and 19 where, in spite of a number of bad cases, we were impressed with the good order and quiet efficiency with which the place is run.

3. In St. Patrick's No. 10 Division, everything was very quiet and orderly.

4. In Division No. 24, all the patients appeared quite comfortable and orderly.

5. At the Laundry we found many patients at work and apparently in a contented mood. They work hard here and appear to take an interest in it.

There is a machine out of order here for a considerable time which is urgently required to deal with the volume of work. A special effort should be made to have the necessary repairs effected

Our best thanks are due to Dr. Walsh and Miss Sharkey, Matron, and Mr. Vero, Deputy Head Male Nurse, for their help and courtesy.

WILLIAM COLMAN.

JOHN CAHILL,

T. O'REILLY.

G. HUGHES.

Order:—Refer to Manager for report.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

24th October, 1956.

1. An Inspection was carried out at Portrane Mental Hospital on Wednesday, 24th October.

Dr. Aird accompanied us to the Kitchen where we inspected the food which was just being served up for first Lunch.

There was Boiled Mutton, Brown Stew, Cabbage and Potatoes followed by Rice Pudding. The meat was of good quality and well cooked.

2. In the Dining Room, we saw the men enjoying their meal. We spoke to several patients. A large number prefer Potatoes cooked in their jackets and told us they would not like the potatoes peeled.

3. Everything was spotlessly clean when we went through the Women's Hospital. It was good to see the Nurses feeding some of the old patients. They were so kind and gentle.

4. After we had seen the T.B. Section, we visited the Children's Section and noticed how well they have settled down.

There was a leakage in the roof of the Children's Section which we trust has by now been repaired.

5. On going through No. 10 Division we noticed how fresh and clean the Wards were. There was no wireless as the "Pick Up" was out of order, we were informed. We trust this has been repaired as the Radio does soothe some patients.

6. After Lunch, Dr. Harte was our guide through the various workshops. All the patients were interested in their work and one patient gave us a demonstration of Picture making—stitching with wool on Velvet.

Others were making door mats and of course some weaving was in progress.

In the Cobbler's Shop there were lots of repairs being carried out on Boots belonging to the patients. This department does very good work. —

7. Everything was most satisfactory, and we are grateful to Doctors Harte and Aird for their kindness and courtesy in showing us around.

WILLIAM COLMAN.
CATHERINE BYRNE.
MARY MULVEY.
KATHLEEN NIX.

Order:—Refer to Manager for report.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to the 13th December, 1956, date of next meeting of the Board:—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).
" E. Timmons.
Mr. Liam Gaynor.
Miss M. C. Ennis.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).
" William Lawless.
Mr. John Jones.
Mr. John Smithers.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

9th November, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's Hospital on the 6th November, 1956, 3,789 patients, viz.:—

In Grangegorman	...	765	1,188	1,953
In Portrane	...	954	882	1,836
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,719	2,070	3,789

as compared with:

6th November, 1955	...	1,738	2,050	3,788
6th November, 1954	...	1,747	2,041	3,788
6th November, 1953	...	1,702	2,043	3,745
6th November, 1952	...	1,650	1,983	3,633

this year's number being one more than on the corresponding date last year and 156 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. The general condition of the Board's Hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

3. On the 16th August last I reported an accident to female patient A.K. (8133), aged 80 years, who had slipped on the dormitory floor of No. 16 Division at Portrane on the 2nd July and injured her left hip. The patient's general health was poor and she was suffering from chronic myocarditis with auricular fibrillation. She died on the 11th October. The Coroner was notified but did not consider an inquest necessary.

4. On the 12th October male patient J.H. (5767) a liberty patient was missing from Grangegorman at

dinner time. He was found by the Gardai at Maynooth that evening and brought back to the hospital by two male nurses.

5. *Accidents to Patients, Grangegorman.*—On the 17th October male patient J.D. (10672), aged 24 years received a dislocation of the right shoulder during a convulsive seizure while undergoing insulin coma therapy.

On the 26th October female patient E.D. (10124) when getting into bed fell on the floor and subsequently complained of pain in the right hip. An X-ray examination disclosed a fracture through the base of the right femoral neck. The patient, who is 73 years of age, is progressing satisfactorily.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that there was no negligence on the part of any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

6. *Accidents to Patients, Portrane.*—On the 21st October female patient M.M. (70481), aged 48 years was pushed by another patient in No. 3 female division and fell on the floor sustaining a fracture of the upper third of the right femur. The Portrane Medical Superintendent reports that the incident was the result of a sudden impulsive action on the part of the other patient and could not have been anticipated by the staff. The accident has been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

7. *Accidents to Staff, Grangegorman.*—Attendant B.P.F. has been off duty since the 8th October with

an injury to her foot sustained when she slipped in No. 22 Division Dining Hall on that date.

Nurse M.McS was off duty from the 13th to 27th October with an injury to his right ankle caused by a fall in the hospital grounds.

Attendant A.F.E. was off duty from the 7th to the 18th October suffering from debility after collapsing when restraining a patient.

A.D. domestic, was off duty from the 18th to the 30th October with a sprained ankle caused by a fall in the Nurses' Dining Hall.

T.McP., carpenter, received a slight head injury when struck by a window sash on which he was working on the 29th October and was off duty on the following day.

A number of other accidents to members of the Grangegorman staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

8. *Accidents to Staff, Portrane.*—Nurse P. McC has been off duty since the 22nd October with an injury to his right ankle sustained while playing hurling with the hospital team.

Nurse P.F. has been off duty since the 22nd October with an injury to his right knee sustained while playing football.

Nurse M.G. was off duty from the 1st to 7th October with an injury to his left hand sustained while playing hurling.

Temporary attendant E.M. was off duty from the 1st to the 16th October with an injury to his wrist sustained while playing for the hospital team.

Attendant M.R. was off duty on the 23rd and 24th October with burns on her wrists and hands sustained while lighting the gas in No. 10 female kitchen on the 21st October.

A number of other accidents to members of the Portrane staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

9. With further reference to Paragraph 5 of the report of Inspection carried out at Portrane on the 22nd August, the Chief Engineer has carried out a trial sawing of a number of timber logs lying in the Workshop Yard. He reports that this timber can be sold in blocks at a price of 80/- per ton without loss and when he has built up a reserve of 50 tons of logs for use in the hospital, it is proposed to dispose of the balance at that price.

10. With reference also to Paragraph 1 of the report of an inspection carried out on 28th September, I have given instructions that arrangements are to be made for washing potatoes in the Farmyard before delivery to the Stores. I have also directed that an experiment is to be carried out to test the feasibility and economics of peeling the potatoes before cooking. A further report will be submitted on this subject together with particulars of the cost of providing the necessary peeling equipment.

11. On the recommendation of the Chief Engineer

I have accepted the tender of Messrs. Tedcastle McCormick and Co. for 150 tons of Best Graded House Coal at £7 9s. 6d. per ton delivered Portrane, as being the most advantageous of a number of tenders received in response to public advertisement.

12. The following is a copy of a report submitted by the Chief R.M.S. on the 8th instant:—

"I have surveyed in detail the use of the special new tranquilising drugs, Serpasil and Largactil, since I introduced them. While these drugs had been used on a small scale up to about six months ago, the reports of very good results obtained by research workers as the result of a special intensive technique decided me to introduce these successful techniques into our Hospital. Two different techniques were applied, one which might almost be described as a shock technique on the Male Side and a less intensive one of the Female Side. In all, on the Male Side 117 patients have been treated and on the Female Side 66 patients have been treated to date.

The results of the treatment have been very gratifying though not as good as the original reports indicated. It may be said, however, that as a result of our observations, these drugs provide a very considerable advance in the treatment of certain forms of mental illness. Apart from the not inconsiderable number of patients who recovered sufficiently to be discharged and who had failed to respond to other treatments, it has had an extraordinary effect on a considerable percentage of patients who had come to be regarded as chronic and who, on account of lack of co-operation and

resistiveness required special care and were not employable. There can be no doubt that these drugs have proved a very great addition to treatment and must be regarded now as essential treatment. In the course of this preliminary application of the drugs it will be understood that they had to be applied to all groups of mental illness and as a result we are now in a position to select those types of mental illness for which it has proved beneficial. The knowledge acquired as to the type of patients who benefited by it will have the effect of reducing very considerably the number of patients to be treated in this way in the future.

The cost, which up to now has amounted to £1,821 for Grangegorman represents an outlay of £9 12s. 1d. for each male patient, and £4 14s. 9d. for each female patient. Serpasil is a very expensive drug and at the moment we are conducting experiments with other tranquilising drugs for which claims have been made and which are much less expensive.

This report is intended to be just a general report on the use of these tranquilising drugs on account of the considerable expenditure involved. A more detailed and scientific report is in course of preparation for submission to scientific journals and to the Board."

As will be noted from this report these new drugs are extraordinarily expensive. The figures quoted by the Chief R.M.S. do not include expenditure in respect of Portrane which is of the same order as for Grangegorman and it is estimated that if the present rate of usage of Drugs and Medicines is continued until

the end of the financial year the amount of £7,500 provided in the Estimates under that head of expenditure will be exceeded by approximately £8,500.

13. I will have available next week the draft lists of special works for inclusion in the Annual Estimates for 1957/58. I presume that, as in previous years, the Board will wish to have these lists examined by the respective Visiting Committees. It would be of the greatest assistance in preparing the General Estimates if the Committees could meet for this purpose at an early date.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

MANAGER'S SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT TO
BOARD.

15th November, 1956.

14. Since 14th ultimo 54 male and 47 female patients were admitted, total 101. Ninety-eight of these were chargeable patients, of whom 41 were temporary, 34 were voluntary and 17 were Persons of Unsound Mind. There were also admitted two Private Patients, one Voluntary and one Person of Unsound Mind and one patient from Sligo Mental Hospital for special treatment.

15. Further to Paragraph 11 of my report of the 9th instant, on the recommendation of the Clerk of Works, I have authorised the purchase of 250 tons of house coal for Grangegorman from Messrs. Tedcastle McCormick and Co. Ltd. at £7 9s. 6d. per ton.

16. The contractor whose tender was accepted for the installation of power plugs in the staff houses at

Portrane at a cost of £189 5s. 0d. had informed me that his tender was incorrect owing to an error on his part in reading the specification, and that he would require a further £80 for carrying out the work in accordance with the specification. I cannot, of course, agree to this increase and I propose to accept the next lowest tender submitted for the work, viz that of Ennis Bros., 29 Herberton Park, Rialto, in the sum of £197 14s. 0d.

17. The Board's Consulting Engineer has obtained from Gallagher Bros. Ltd., the contractors for the general alterations to the electrical installation at Portrane, a quotation for re-wiring the quarters in the administration block occupied by two permanent and one temporary Assistant Medical Officers. The price quoted is £131 5s. 0d., which the Consulting Engineer certifies to be reasonable, and I propose to accept it. The cost of this work will be charged to the sum provided for contingencies in the loan for the change over of the electrical installation.

T. O BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:—

Paragraph 12: Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless, seconded by Mr. Anthony Lalor: "That the Manager be authorised to expend a sum of £8,500 in excess of the amount provided for medicines in the official Estimate and Demand for 1956/57. *Passed unanimously.*

Paragraph 16: Noted.

Paragraph 17: Noted.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.
JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

Report No. 276.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

A Meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 22nd day of November, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present:—Councillors James Andrews, Gilbert Hughes, William Lawless, Eugene Timmons, Messrs. William Chase, Thomas O'Reilly, John Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

CONDOLENCE

The Chairman (Councillor W. J. Colman) proposed and Councillor William Lawless seconded "That we learn with deep regret of the loss sustained by Councillor C. M. Byrne by the death of his wife and we tender to him our sincerest sympathy."

The resolution was adopted in silence, all present standing.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.

22nd November, 1956.

1. With the purchase of the cows last month, supplies of milk were considerably increased, giving practically full supplies. There was a slight deficiency, averaging approximately 18 gallons daily over the month, and it is hoped that full supplies will be available in the near future. At present Portrane Hospital is receiving its full requirements of 278 gallons per day, while Grangegorman Hospital is receiving 270 gallons per day, its requirements being 278 gallons.

When purchasing the cows at Crooksling last month a well-bred two-year old hereford bull was also on offer, which I purchased for £70. This bull is being kept at Ballymastone Farm, where he meets the needs of the Portrane and Ballymastone Farms. As almost half the herd is now being served by the hereford breed, at least two hereford bulls are required for this purpose.

The present daily average yield from 241 cows is 2.15 gallons. The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of last month:—

	<i>This month</i>	<i>Last month</i>
Over 6 gallons	1	1
5—6	6	5
4—5	19	23
3—4	44	47
2—3	57	73
1—2	78	62
Under 1 gallon	36	32
Total	241	243

2. The following is a table of (a) purchases (b) sales of livestock during the month of October:—

	Total Cost	Average per Beast
(a) 18 milch cows	£926 0 0	£51 9 0
2 incalf cows	140 0 0	70 0 0
1 hereford bull	70 0 0	—
40 sheep	286 15 6	7 3 4

(b) 16 calves were sold at the following prices:—2 @ £10 10s. 0d., 2 @ £8 10s. 0d., 1 @ £7 0s. 0d., 4 @ £6 10s. 0d., 2 @ £6 5s. 0d., 1 @ £6 0s. 0d., 2 @ £5 0s. 0d., 2 @ £4 15s. 0d.; total £109 0s. 0d.

16 bonhams were sold at the following prices:—3 @ £6 17s. 6d., 2 @ £6 10s. 0d., 5 @ £6 5s. 0d., and 6 for £40 0s. 0d.; total £104 17s. 6d.

1 store sow in young was sold for £34 0s. 0d. 3 fat sows and 1 boar were sold in the Dublin Market for a nett sum of £103 6s. 2d.

10 fat pigs were sent to the premises of Messrs. Patrick Kehoe Ltd. for killing and curing for Grange-gorman. I am pricing these at £17 10s. 0d. each including Messrs. Kehoe's charges.

3. *Mastitis*: The position with regard to mastitis continues to be satisfactory. A few clinical cases occurred during the month, principally at Portrane Farm. These responded to the usual treatment.

4. During the past month four cases of Acetonaemia occurred in freshly calved milch cows. None of these responded to treatment. Three of them were slaughtered and were certified as suitable for human consumption, while the other one died while under veterinary care. This condition is due to lack of assimilation of carbohydrates. Expert veterinary advice was

sought, which was to the effect that this disease is due to too low a fibre content in the animals' ration. To counteract this, it is advised that at least a stone of hay per day be fed in the ration of milking cows. This position is principally due to the high production of luscious grass on the farms for a number of years, so that it will be necessary to feed more roughage to the cows.

5. *Crops:* The digging and storing of the potato crop continues and to-date a total of 65 acres have been dug, leaving 32 acres still to be dug. The crop is lifting satisfactorily and I am pleased to say the crop is better than was previously anticipated. All the wet fields have been dug first and it was only in the wet hollows that any considerable loss occurred. There is a greater number of blighted tubers in the crop than in previous years and these are causing some dissatisfaction from the kitchens. It is difficult to detect all the black potatoes before being washed. On the whole the crop will give a satisfactory return and present indications are that the average returns will be higher than in recent years.

The storing of the remaining 20 acres of hay at Portrane Farm has been completed, while the collecting and storing of the straw was completed on 10th instant.

I am now in a position to give complete returns for the harvest. The total production of wheat was 1615.65 barrels (green wheat) giving an average yield of 14.82 barrels per statute acre, equal to 24 barrels per Irish acre, from 109 acres. This is the highest yield ever recorded on the farm. This high return is principally due to the greater acreage of Winter wheat grown, which yielded exceptionally well. Of the total produced, 100 barrels was unsuitable for

milling and was subsequently dried and retained for livestock feeding. 60 barrels of Winter wheat were dried for seed, of which 31 barrels were sold locally at £5 0s. 0d. per barrel.

The total yield of barley was 400 barrels from 25 acres, giving an average yield of 16 barrels per statute acre. This was all dried and retained for feeding on the farm.

To date 8 acres of Winter wheat has been sown. It is intended to sow a total of 40 acres of Winter wheat between now and Spring.

6. *Grass:* With the mild weather, grass continued to grow and a reasonable amount was available on all farms to date. General foddering of the outdoor stock has not commenced yet, but present indications are that it will be started before the end of the current month. All the heavy milking cows have been housed at night on the three farms and are now on full Winter rations. Portrane and Turvey cows have a run of the pastures during the day. The silo pits at Portrane and Turvey were opened on 1st and 5th instant. Silage is being fed to the milch cows on the three farms.

7. *Santry Court:* All cattle were maintained on grass, with the exception of 23 calves, which were housed. Grass is getting very scarce now and foddering will have to commence immediately.

The present stock at Santry Court comprises 1 horse, 20 calves, 63 yearlings, 50 two-year-olds and 1 bull.

JAMES HAYES,
Agricultural Manager.

Order. Noted.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER, PORTRANE.

22nd November, 1956.

1. *Vegetable Fields:* The area under winter crops at the moment is as follows:—6 acres Savoy cabbage, 5 acres broccoli, 2 acres swede turnips and $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres of leeks. Total $14\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

The area under winter crops at the corresponding period of last year was as follows:—10 acres Savoy cabbage, 9 acres broccoli, 3 acres swede turnips, 1 acre parsnips and 1 acre of leeks. Total 24 acres. With the exception of broccoli, the same amount of winter crops were planted this year and last year. The area under broccoli was reduced by 2 acres. The late Summer and Autumn cabbage was increased this year from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 acres as compared to last year.

The fact that there is such a small area under vegetables at the moment can be attributed to the loss of 4 acres of Savoy caused by the flooding and the backwardness of the crops in general.

The yield by weight per acre of cabbage and root crops is about 25% below that of last year.

2. Autumn onions are up to expectations and I hope to have a good supply of them in the New Year.

The Spring onion crop was very poor and may not last out to the end of the year.

3. I have completed the planting of 9 acres of Spring cabbage plants, this is 4 acres less than at this time last year.

4. *Kitchen Gardens and Recreation Grounds:*—The picking of the apple crop was completed some time ago. There remains in storage at the moment between 9 and 10 tons of apples.

The following seasonal work is being carried out at the moment:—renovating and planting herbaceous borders, pruning fruit trees, cleaning walks, applying manure to fruit trees and general indoor work. Bowling greens, lawns, etc., have received their final cutting for this year and all lawn mowers have been collected up for general overhaul.

GRANGEGORMAN

5. Since my last report the following work was carried out in this department, viz:—Planting lettuce, cabbage, flowering plants and bulbs, removing dead leaves from brussel sprouts, pruning fruit trees, ploughing vacant ground and general upkeep of recreation grounds.

SANTRY GARDENS.

6. Work carried out in these gardens consisted chiefly of pruning fruit trees, cleaning and renovating flower borders, covering rhubarb, cleaning out and washing down tomato houses and scuffling walks.

ANDREW WOLOHAN,

Head Gardener.

Order. Noted.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE FARMS
AND GARDENS.

8th November, 1956.

1. We visited Portrane on Thursday, 8th instant, and Mr. Vaughan kindly met us at Donabate with his car. We inspected the farm at Turvey and noted the tidy appearance of the farmyard and buildings. The cowbyres and dairy were in good order and there was a fine stock of hay and straw well harvested. The silage being taken from the pit appeared of very high quality.

2. We walked through the potato fields where digging was in progress and the crop appears to be excellent. There remains about 50 acres still to be harvested. It is to be hoped that the dry weather will continue for a week or two when there is every prospect of a record yield.

3. At Ballymastone everything was neat and tidy. There was a very fine crop of hay well harvested and some excellent calves in good condition. The recently purchased Hereford bull is a fine young animal and should prove a valuable asset. At Portrane the unfinished new potato store caught our attention and we would urge its completion as soon as possible.

4. The piggeries continue to produce an excellent breed of pigs and show the result of care and attention.

Agricultural Committee. 323. 22nd November, 1956

A very fine group of young stores is awaiting a permit for removal to Grangegorman.

5. After lunch we visited the gardens and were pleased to note that rapid progress with repairing the green house is being made and also to find such a magnificent crop of apples well harvested. The grounds around the new divisions are looking very well.

Our best thanks are due to Mr. Vaughan for his kindness and help.

Wm. COLMAN.
Wm. CHASE.
E. TIMMONS.
GILBERT HUGHES.

Order. Noted.

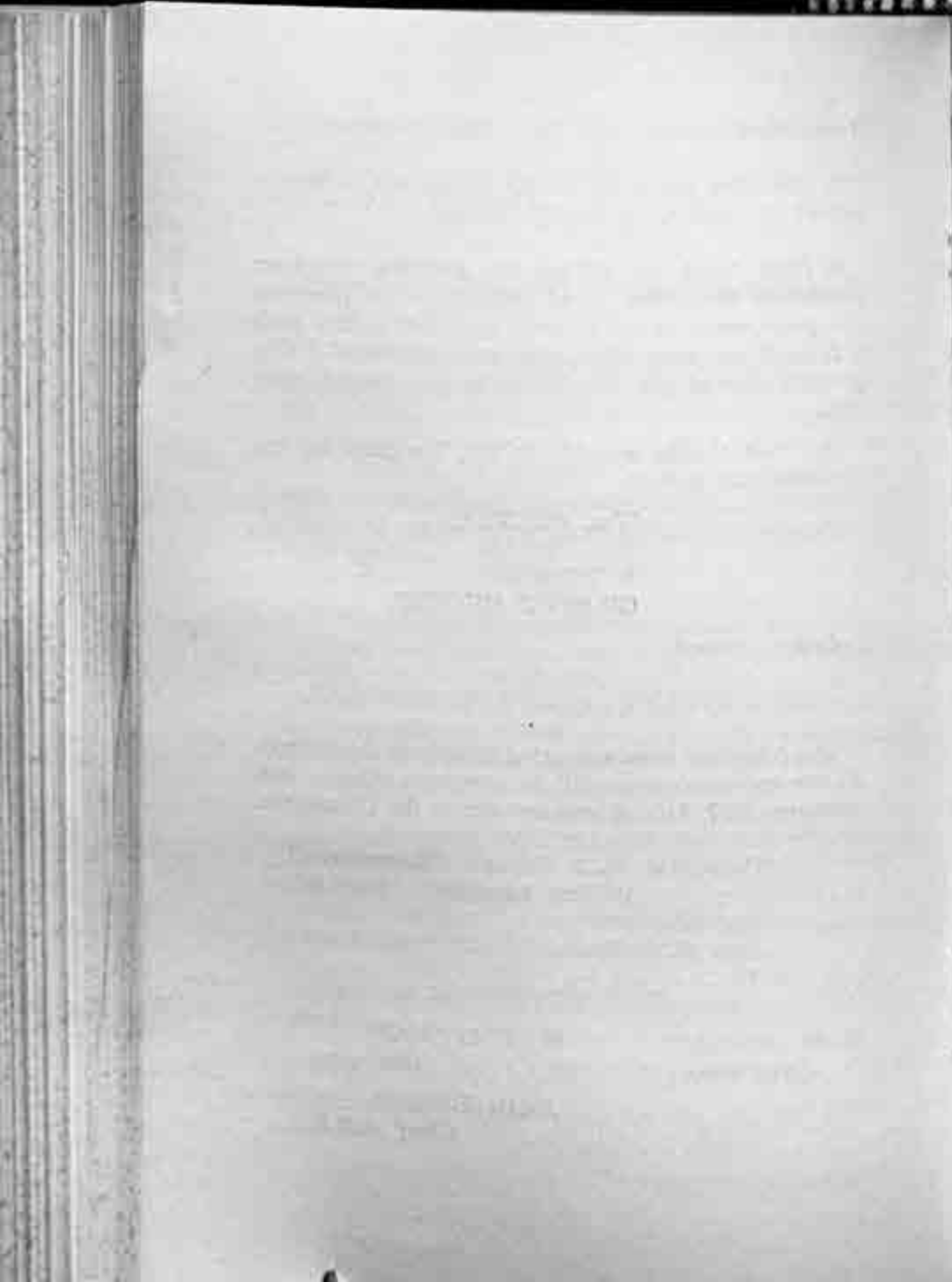
APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 24th January, 1957, date of next meeting of the Committee.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).
" William Lawless.
Mr. John Smithers.
Miss M. C. Ennis.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.
JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.



Report No. 277

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

BOARD MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 13th day of December, 1956, Councillor W. J. Colman, P.C. (Chairman) in the Chair. The following members were also present:—

City of Dublin Representatives:—Councillors Patrick J. Bermingham, Kevin Boland, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, James Carroll, Bernard Conway, Gilbert Hughes, Dr. Christopher A. Macken, Eugene Timmons, P.C., Messrs. John Cahill, William Chase, John Jones, Anthony Lalor, Roland Roulston, Liam Gaynor, Thomas O'Reilly and John Smithers.

County Dublin Representatives:—Councillors Mrs. M. Mulvey, P.C., James Andrews, P.C., Miss M. C. Ennis.

County Wicklow Representatives:—Councillors W. Lawless and P. McCarthy.

Apologies were received from Alderman Mrs. C. Lynch, T.D., and from Councillor Thomas Stafford for their inability to attend.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board (Report No. 275 of the 15th November, 1956) were confirmed and signed.

A return of the state of the Hospital for month ended 30th November, 1956, was submitted as follows:—

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
On Hospital Register at 31st				
October, 1956	...	1,759	2,073	3,832
Admitted during month	...	59	63	122
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,818	2,136	3,954

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Discharged				
during month	54	49	103	
Died during				
month	... 10	13	23	
Escaped do.	—	—	—	64
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Remaining on Hospital Register	1,754	2,074	3,828	
Absent on trial and escape	23	22	45	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Remaining in residence	... 1,731	2,052	3,783	

DISTRIBUTION

In Grangegorman	...	777	1,169	1,946
In Portrane	... ..	954	883	1,837
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total number resident as above	1,731	2,052	3,783	

CHARGEABILITY

City of Dublin	...	...	2,858
County Dublin	...	...	522
County Wicklow	...	...	342
Criminal Lunatics	...	...	40
Non-district patients	...	...	21
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	3,783

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Councillor W. Lawless proposed and Mr. T. O'Reilly seconded the adoption of Report No. 276 of the meeting of the Agricultural Committee held on the 22nd November, 1956. *Passed unanimously.*

REPORT OF INSPECTION, GRANGEGORMAN.

20th November, 1956.

1. As requested by the Board, we attended at Grangegorman on 20th November and, with the assistance of the Clerk of Works, we examined the draft list of special works for inclusion in the Estimates for 1957/58. We inspected a number of the departments in which it is proposed to carry out these works.

2. The expenditure of a sum of £3,750 on painting and redecoration (Item 1) is proposed. It was decided three years ago to undertake a long term plan of improving the standard of decoration in the Hospital and we are satisfied that the expenditure of a sum of this order will be necessary for the next three years.

3. The list includes a sum of £2,300 (Item No. 23) by way of general provision for improvements which will be undertaken as a result of the Manager's recent inspection of the Hospital. We have examined a tentative detailed schedule of these improvements, many of which have been recommended by the Visiting Committees from time to time.

4. We recommend that the list of Special Works, which are estimated to cost a total of £14,825, be approved for inclusion in the draft Estimate of Expenses for 1957/58.

5. We would like to record our appreciation of the assistance given to us by the Clerk of Works in carrying out this examination.

W. J. COLMAN.

E. TIMMONS.

L. GAYNOR.

M. C. ENNIS.

Order: Adopted on the motion of Councillor E. Timmons, seconded by Mr. Liam Gaynor.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, PORTRANE.

21st November, 1956.

As requested by the Board, we attended at Portrane on the 21st November and, with the assistance of the Chief Engineer, we examined the draft list of special works for inclusion in the Estimates for

1957-58. We recommend that the proposed list of works be amended as follows:—

ADDITIONS

	£
Amount for painting to be increased from £2,500 to £2,850, to provide for additional external painting required	350
Provision for replacing locks and keys in Nurses' rooms to be increased from £90 to £120	40
Extend water supply to south of avenue, Turvey Farm	250
Replace bath and piping in A.M.O.'s house	50
Installation of wash basin and steriliser in No. 7 male epileptic division ...	70
Total additions ...	760

REDUCTIONS

Delete provision for repairs to flooring etc., in cow byre at Ballymastone Farm	30
Reduce provision for contingencies from £3,000 to £2,500	500
Total reductions ...	530

We recommend that the list of special works, as amended, which are now estimated to cost a total of £8,855 be approved for inclusion in the draft Estimate of Expenses for 1957/58.

We would like to record our appreciation of the

assistance given to us by the Chief Engineer in carrying out this examination.

W. J. COLMAN.

WILLIAM LAWLESS.

JOHN SMITHERS.

JOHN JONES.

Order: Adopted on the motion of Mr. John Jones, seconded by Mr. J. Smithers.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES

The following were appointed to the Grangegorman and Portrane Visiting Committees for the ensuing period to 10th January, 1957, date of next meeting of the Board:—

GRANGEGORMAN VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

„ Mrs. C. Byrne.

„ G. Hughes.

„ Mrs. M. Mulvey.

PORTRANE VISITING COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

Mr. A. Lalor.

Mr. T. O'Reilly.

Mr. R. Roulston.

MANAGER'S REPORT TO BOARD.

13th December, 1956.

1. There were resident in the Board's hospital on the 9th December, 1956, 3,797 patients, viz.:—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
In Grangegorman ...	788	1,178	1,966
In Portrane ...	941	890	1,831
	<hr/> 1,729	<hr/> 2,068	<hr/> 3,797

as compared with:

9th December, 1955	1,750	2,042	3,792
9th December, 1954	1,733	2,031	3,764
9th December, 1953	1,730	2,027	3,757
9th December, 1952	1,645	1,978	3,623

this year's number being five more than on the corresponding date last year and 174 more than on the corresponding date in 1952.

2. Since 10th November, 64 male and 52 female patients were admitted, total 116. One hundred and fifteen of these were chargeable patients, of whom 66 were Temporary, 30 were voluntary and 19 were persons of Unsound Mind. There was one patient admitted from Ennis Mental Hospital for special treatment.

3. The general condition of the Board's hospitals is reported by the Chief R.M.S. and the Portrane Medical Superintendent to be satisfactory and the health of the patients normal.

4. At 4.40 a.m. on the 8th ultimo, Deputy Head

Night Nurse Thomas Byrne, while on his rounds observed sparks coming from the roof of the Mattress Shop at Portrane. He raised the alarm and with the assistance of other members of the staff had the fire extinguished within a few minutes.

The timber sheeting on the roof of the Mattress Shop, the ridgeboard and lead capping over a distance of approximately 5 ft. was destroyed; the cost of repairs is estimated at approximately £70 and it will be recovered from the Board's Insurers. It is not clear how the fire originated.

5. P.C. (10494), a liberty patient, working in the male kitchen at Grangegorman escaped from the grounds on the 18th November. He was brought back from Waterford, where he had been apprehended by the Guards.

J.H. (10055), a liberty patient, was missing from Grangegorman at supper time on the 24th November. He returned voluntarily on the morning of the 1st December.

J.H. (9251), a liberty patient, escaped from the grounds at Grangegorman on 24th November. He returned voluntarily on 25th November.

On the 6th November male patient C.R. (40922) escaped from Portrane while waiting outside the Dentist's Room for treatment. He has not since been located. The escape occurred when the nurse who had charge of the patient was in the Dentist's Room. I consider that this nurse should have been more alert and he has been warned to exercise greater care in future.

6. *Accidents to Patients, Grangegorman.* Male patient P.B. (10524), aged 76 years, was found to have a fracture of a bone of the right thumb. It is not known how this injury occurred but the patient

was involved in a scuffle with another patient over possession of a chair on the 25th November and this is considered the probable cause of the injury.

On the 15th November female patient J.L. (10,333), aged 75 years, fell out of bed and sustained a fracture of the left clavicle. The patient had been ill before the accident and her condition deteriorated and she died on the 21st November. A post mortem examination was carried out and the death certificate was issued by the Coroner showing that the cause of death was colitis.

The Chief R.M.S. assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in relation to these accidents, which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

7. Accidents to Patients, Portrane. On the 28th October male patient H.M. (33370), aged 71 years, fell on the floor in No. 9 Division following an epileptiform fit. He was removed to the Hospital Division where he was found to have a fracture of the upper third of the right femur. This was later confirmed by X-ray examination and the patient was transferred to Grangegorman for treatment.

On the 8th November male patient P.M. (9823), aged 80 years, sustained a fracture of the upper third of the left femur. He had been sitting on the edge of his bed in No. 6 Division and had apparently slipped off it on to the floor. The patient was transferred to Grangegorman on the 10th November. Operative treatment was not considered advisable and the patient continued fairly well up to the 20th November when he developed broncho-pneumonia with

signs of cardiac failure from which he died on the 26th November. The facts were reported to the Coroner who did not deem an inquest necessary and the cause of death was certified to be acute bronchopneumonia and myocardial degeneration.

The Portrane Medical Superintendent assures me that no blame attaches to any member of the staff in connection with these accidents which have been duly reported to the Minister for Health.

8. *Accidents to Staff, Grangegorman.* Nurse A.D. was off duty from the 3rd to the 7th December with an injury to her right index finger sustained while closing a washing machine in the laundry.

Nurse C.N. was incapacitated from the 3rd to the 7th December with a sprained right ankle sustained while on duty.

Other accidents to members of the Grangegorman staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

9. *Accidents to Staff, Portrane.* Nurse J.F. has been off duty since the 29th November with a sprained knee and a report as to the cause of this injury is awaited.

E.F. Boilerman, has been off duty since the 4th November suffering from an incapacity which is stated to be due to a sprained muscle.

Nurse J.O'T was off duty from the 1st to the 21st November with an injury to his left thumb sustained while playing hurling for the hospital team.

Nurse B.G. was off duty from the 3rd to the 9th November with an injury to the head caused by a blow from a patient.

Nurse M.D. was off duty from 18th to 25th November with an injury to his right shin sustained while playing football.

Attendant E.M. was off duty from the 8th to the 18th November with an injury to her chest caused by a knock against the end of a patient's bed.

A number of other accidents to members of the Portrane staff were reported which did not cause incapacity.

10. With reference to the Inspection carried out at Grangegorman on the 1st November by Councillor Colman and Messrs. Cahill, O'Reilly and Hughes, the Clerk of Works informs me that the machine in the laundry is in operation again; two fibre pinion wheels were worn out and there was considerable difficulty about obtaining replacements.

11. With reference to the Inspection carried out at Portrane on the 24th October by Councillors Colman, Mrs. Catherine Byrne, Mrs. Mary Mulvey, Mrs. K. Nix, I have to report:—

Item 4. The defect noted at the Children's Division has been repaired. It was due to an overflow from the boilerhouse.

Item. 5. The radio in No. 10 Division has been repaired.

12. I have authorised the usual Christmas extras for patients and staff and gratuities for working patients. An extra cinema performance will be given in each hospital around Christmas.

13. I have accepted the tender of Messrs. M. and P. Hanlon Ltd. for the supply of Turkeys at 2/4 per lb. delivered Grangegorman and Portrane, being the lower of two tenders received. The price last year was 4/4d. per lb. delivered Grangegorman and 4/5d. delivered Portrane.

14. On the recommendation of the Agricultural Manager, I have accepted the tender of Messrs. Thomas LaGrue and Sons, Corporation Fruit Market, for the supply of 30 tons of Kerr's Pink Seed potatoes for delivery in March at £14-15-0 per ton, as being the most suitable of seven tenders received.

15. On the recommendation of the Chief Engineer I have authorised the purchase of 200 tons of Welsh Steam Coal at £9 4s. 3d. per ton delivered Portrane from P. Donnelly and Sons, Ltd. This is the lowest of a number of tenders received recently for Welsh Steam Coal in response to advertisement.

16. The Board's Architect has reported that the total cost of constructing the Sub-Station for the Electricity Supply Board at Portrane is £1,158 1s. 3d. as against the original estimate of £1,000. The Architect reports that the E.S.B. required the concrete ceiling to be lathed and plastered to eliminate dampness from condensation and also that special shutters be fitted on the louvred panels of the doors, neither of which had been provided for in the original estimate.

17. The general report submitted in June, 1953, by Messrs. J. A. Kenny and Partners, Consulting Engineers, on the mechanical and electrical services at Portrane recommended inter alia that all cooking

in the institution should be centralised in the main kitchen. I have had this recommendation under consideration for some time and I am satisfied that it would effect a considerable saving in operating costs since it would permit of the closing down of the steam boilers and the Kitchen at the temporary buildings. These boilers were required formerly to provide heating and hot water as well as steam for cooking in the temporary buildings but during the past twelve months heating and hot water have been supplied by means of new mains from the main steam boilers installed for the two new units. It would obviously be uneconomic to continue the operation of the local steam boiler for cooking only in the temporary buildings kitchen.

It will be necessary to instal additional equipment in the Divisions hitherto supplied from the separate kitchens and I have included provision for the following in the draft estimates for 1957/58.

Hot Plates for Nos. 6 and 9 Male and	
Nos. 6 and 10 Female Divisions ...	£450

Tea Boilers for Nos. 8 and 9 Male	
Divisions	£260

In order that the centralisation may be put in hands without delay, it will be necessary to expend the following additional sums in the current financial year:

Installation of equipment from No. 8	
Division Kitchen in Main Kitchen ...	£500
Electric Cookers for Nos. 8, 9 and 10	
Male and No. 8 Female Divisions ...	£160

Trolleys for main Kitchen, Nos. 8 and 9

Male and No. 11 Female Divisions ... £180

I would ask the Board to authorise the additional expenditure involved, provision for which has not been made in the current year's estimates.

18. When the change-over of Portrane to the National Supply is completed in the near future, the Hospital's electricity generating plant will be closed down and the permanent staff required for the boilers and engines will be reduced from ten to five men. I request the Board's consent to this variation in the authorised number of permanent offices for Portrane.

Two permanent enginemen (aged 55 and 58 years) who will become redundant under the new arrangement, will be retired on full pension, subject to the consent of the Minister.

19. In March last the Minister for Health certified the expenses incurred by a number of Trade Unions in representing members of the staff at inquiries held in Portrane in June and September/October, 1953, amounting to a total of £799 4s. 0d. and directed the Board to pay the expenses to the Trade Unions. The Board authorised this expenditure and payment was duly made.

When acknowledging the Minister's certificate on 31st May, I referred to correspondence about expenses amounting to £62 13s. 0d. paid by the Board on the Minister's certificate in respect of another inquiry held in Portrane about the same time. In that case the Department of Health had stated that expenses

of this nature would not rank for recoupment under the Health Services Grant but the Board's Law Agent expressed the opinion that such expenses should be admitted for grant as being revenue expenditure properly incurred on a recognised Health Service. On the advice of the Law Agent, the Minister was asked to give a formal certificate to that effect or to state the specific reasons for his refusal to do so. There has been no response to this request and the position is that, to date, sums of £62 13s. 0d. and £799 4s. 0d. have been paid in respect of Inquiries held on the direction of the Minister, towards which the usual contribution of 50 per cent. from the Health Services Grant may not be paid to the Board's contributing authorities.

I have now received from the Department of Health a certificate showing that the expenses incurred by the Minister in respect of the Inquiries held in June and September/October, 1953, amounted to £250 19s. 7d. and directing payment of that amount by the Board. No provision for this expenditure has been made in the Estimates for the current financial year.

20. I have been informed by the Department of Local Government that the rate of interest payable in respect of advances from the Local Loans Fund on or after 14th November, 1956, will be increased from 5½% to 5¾%. The Minister for Local Government has directed that commitments on foot of loans proposed to be obtained from the Local Loans Fund should not be incurred until the loan from the fund has been sanctioned by the Minister for Finance.

21. The Estimates Meeting of the Board must be held on Thursday, 10th January and I would recommend that the monthly meeting of the Board be brought forward by one week to that date and that,

as usual, a meeting of the Board (sitting as a Committee of the whole Board) be held on Thursday, the 3rd January to consider the draft Estimates.

T. O'BROIN,

Dublin Assistant City Manager.

Orders made thereon:

Paragraph 17: Proposed by Councillor W. Lawless, seconded by Mr. Anthony Lalor, "That the Manager be authorised to expend a sum of £840 in excess of the amount provided in the official Estimate and Demand for 1956/57, on the centralisation of cooking services at Portrane." *Passed unanimously.*

Paragraph 18: Proposed by Councillor J. Carroll, seconded by Councillor W. Lawless, "That the Board consents to a reduction of five in the number of permanent offices authorised for Portrane." *Passed unanimously.*

Paragraph 19: Proposed by Mr. John Cahill, seconded by Councillor William Lawless, "The Board notes that the Minister has not given the information requested in connection with previous payments arising out of these inquiries; since the Board is of opinion that expenses incurred in respect of inquiries held on the direction of the Minister should rank for recoupment from the Health Services Grant, it requests an assurance that these expenses will so rank, before it authorises the over-expenditure which would be involved in this instance." *Passed unanimously.*

Paragraph 21: Approved.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN,
Chairman.
JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

Report No. 278.

Grangegorman Mental Hospital Board.

ESTIMATE FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING
31st MARCH, 1958.

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TABLE 1.

Showing the Daily Average Number of Patients resident in the Hospital from each County from 1933.

Year ended	Sub-Division of Hospital District				Criminal Lunatics	Non-District	Total
	City of Dublin	Co. Dublin	Co. Wick-low	Co. Louth			
31 Mar. 1933 ...	2,601	461	313	341	77	—	3,793
" 1934 ...	2,683	474	322	249	79	—	3,807
" 1935 ...	2,718	487	317	1	75	—	3,598
" 1936 ...	2,715	499	320	—	72	—	3,606
" 1937 ...	2,726	494	331	—	71	—	3,622
" 1938 ...	2,700	503	323	—	71	—	3,597
" 1939 ...	2,737	518	324	—	69	3	3,651
" 1940 ...	2,728	520	314	—	70	10	3,642
" 1941 ...	2,760	516	312	—	66	4	3,658
" 1942 ...	2,703	504	306	—	66	7	3,586
" 1943 ...	2,584	474	284	—	62	6	3,410
" 1944 ...	2,501	453	280	—	56	3	3,293
" 1945 ...	2,507	450	272	—	57	4	3,290
" 1946 ...	2,531	458	279	—	55	8	3,331
" 1947 ...	2,527	477	281	—	53	14	3,352
" 1948 ...	2,458	469	287	—	55	33	3,302
" 1949 ...	2,524	475	291	—	54	22	3,366
" 1950 ...	2,577	493	306	—	50	15	3,441
" 1951 ...	2,641	493	322	—	49	19	3,524
" 1952 ...	2,633	505	330	—	50	15	3,533
" 1953 ...	2,691	528	334	—	51	16	3,620
" 1954 ...	2,822	497	337	—	49	25	3,730
" 1955 ...	2,847	509	342	—	45	25	3,768
" 1956 ...	2,883	503	340	—	40	26	3,792
Nos. resident during 7 months ended 31st October, 1956.	2,897	511	338	—	40	23	3,809

TABLE 2.
SUMMARY OF ESTIMATE

	Present Estimate, 1957-58	Last Estimate, 1956-57
	£	£
Estimated Expenditure as per Table 3	862,540	850,585
Less—Estimated Receipts (other than receipts in respect of Pay- ing Patients from any of the contributing counties or county borough).	64,700	62,000
NET REQUIREMENTS	797,840	788,585
Estimated Debit Balance at com- mencement of year	4,382	35,532
TOTAL DEBITS	£802,222	£824,117
Estimated Receipts in respect of Paying Patients from counties and county borough	46,300	45,600
Estimated Credit Balance at commencement of year	—	—
TOTAL CREDITS	£46,300	£45,600
Difference being amount of Pro- posed Demand	£755,922	£778,517
Net Decrease £22,595		

TABLE 3.—EXPENDITURE.

Actual Expenditure, 1953-54	Actual Expenditure, 1954-55	Actual Expenditure, 1955-56	Head of Service.	Present Estimate, 1957-58	Last Estimate 1956-57	Comparison	
						Increase	Decrease
£	£	£		£	£	£	£
139,274	142,002	94,196	Food, Drink and Tobacco	91,000	95,000	—	4,000
77,572	83,414	71,837	Farm Expenses	61,830	66,890	—	5,060
2,593	2,680	3,109	Materials for Washing or Cleansing	3,000	2,700	300	—
6,710	8,293	10,839	Medicines	12,000	7,500	4,500	—
53,152	60,016	66,431	Heating, Lighting and Water Supply	79,500	72,000	7,500	—
42,996	42,524	28,881	Clothing and Bedding	29,000	29,000	—	—
9,153	7,577	6,492	Furniture, Crockery and Hardware	8,000	8,000	—	—
2,396	2,079	2,467	Medical and Surgical Appliances	2,500	2,500	—	—
263,097	279,186	410,460	Salaries and Wages	398,600	401,250	—	2,650
—	1,655	2,646	Fees to authorised Medical Officers	3,000	2,500	500	—
35,157	34,372	43,710	Superannuations	44,000	36,500	7,500	—
25,356	24,373	25,326	Structural Alterations, repairs and main- tenance	65,530	65,295	235	—
3,316	3,419	3,673	Stationery, Printing and Advertising	3,500	3,500	—	—
4,342	4,662	5,023	Rents, Rates, Taxes and Insurances	6,700	5,200	1,500	—
325	138	228	Re-afforestation of Portrane	250	250	—	—
10,381	13,283	12,957	Miscellaneous Expenses	13,530	12,900	630	—
1,049	189	314	Maintenance in Other Mental Hospitals	400	400	—	—
—	62	215	Cost of Conveyance	200	200	—	—
15,560	16,666	25,413	Loan Charges	40,000	39,000	1,000	—
£692,429	£726,590	£814,217	Total Revenue Expenditure	£862,540	£850,585	£11,955	—

TABLE 4.—RECEIPTS

Actual Receipts, 1953-54	Actual Receipts, 1954-55	Actual Receipts, 1955-56		Present Estimate 1957-58	Last Estimate 1956-57	Comparison	
						Increase	Decrease
£	£	£	Receipts for Paying Patients:—	£	£	£	£
34,276	40,378	32,915	(a) City of Dublin Account ...	34,500	34,000	500	—
11,058	7,068	8,085	(b) Co. Dublin Account ...	8,000	8,000	—	—
3,908	3,678	3,951	(c) Co. Wicklow Account ...	3,800	3,600	200	—
49,242	51,124	44,851	Total for Patients from Contributing Area ...	46,300	45,600	700	—
4,144	3,805	3,757	(d) Criminal Lunatic Service Patients ...	3,600	3,800	—	200
5,254	5,191	4,547	(e) Criminal Lunatics ...	4,600	4,200	400	—
4,206	4,591	5,144	(f) Non-District Patients ...	4,000	3,500	500	—
62,846	64,711	58,299	Total for Paying Patients ...	58,500	57,100	1,400	—
11,641	10,363	12,008	Farm Account Sales ...	9,000	9,000	—	—
335	333	943	Sale of Offal and Old Stores ...	300	300	—	—
610	500	484	Interest Allowed by Treasurer ...	—	—	—	—
182	126	122	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	200	200	—	—
10,385	10,654	11,407	Superannuation Contributions ...	12,000	11,000	1,000	—
4,352	4,391	31,382	Deductions from Salaries and Wages ...	31,000	30,000	1,000	—
—	2,130	—	Accumulated Balances in Patients Private Property Account ...	—	—	—	—
£90,351	£93,208	£114,645	Total ...	£111,000	£107,600	£3,400	—

TABLE 5

Apportionment of Estimate and Proposed Demand for 1957-58
and Comparison with last Demand.

	City of Dublin	County Dublin	County Wicklow	Total
Estimated Balance against at close of current year ...	£ 2,434	£ 3,427	£ —	£ 5,861
Apportioned share of Net Require- ment for Year 1957-58 ...	617,016	108,835	71,989	797,840
Net Debits ...	£619,450	£112,262	£71,989	£803,701
Receipts in respect of Paying Patients from Counties or Co. Borough for 1957-58 ...	34,500	8,000	3,800	46,300
Estimated Balance in favour at close of current year ...	—	—	1,479	1,479
Net Credits ...	£34,500	£8,000	£5,279	£47,779
Difference being Proposed Demand for 1957-58 ...	584,950	104,262	66,710	755,922
Corresponding Demand, 1956-57 ...	605,947	100,721	71,949	778,517
Comparison ...	Decrease £20,997	Increase £3,541	Decrease £5,139	Decrease £22,595

TABLE 6
BASIS OF APPORTIONMENT OF EXPENSES.

Extract from Mental Treatment Act, 1945.

Section 13 (4). "Where a mental hospital district consists of a county borough and one or more administrative counties, the sum required to defray the expenses incurred by the mental hospital authority for the district during every year ending on the 31st day of March shall be supplied by the corporation of such borough and the council of such county or the councils of such counties severally in proportion to the net cost of maintenance, determined by the prescribed method, of the chargeable patients from their respective functional areas maintained by the mental hospital authority during such year, and the proportionate part of that sum of such council of a county or of each such council of a county shall be raised by means of the poor rate equally over the whole of the county."

The net cost of maintenance of the chargeable patients is determined in accordance with the provisions of Article 105 of the Public Bodies Order, 1946.

It is impossible to determine in advance the average numbers who will actually be chargeable against each county during the ensuing financial year and for the purpose of apportioning the estimate and demand the latest available figures are taken as a basis, viz., the average numbers resident during the seven months ended 31st October, 1956, which were as follows:—

City of Dublin	...	...	2,897
County Dublin	...	...	511
County Wicklow	...	...	338
			3,746*

* Excluding non-district patients, and criminal lunatics.

On this basis the following table shows the ratio in which the estimated expenses are apportioned against each contributing county compared with last year:—

	1957-58	1956-57	Comparison	
	Estimate	Estimate	Increase	Decrease
City of Dublin	77.336%	77.382%	—	.046%
County Dublin	13.641%	13.437%	.204%	—
County Wicklow	9.023%	9.181%	—	.158%

TABLE 7

DETAILS OF ESTIMATE FOR STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS, REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE.

Materials (only) for ordinary maintenance of buildings, plant and machinery, and for structural and engineering repairs:—

GRANGEGORMAN	...	...	4,000
PORTRANE	...	...	4,000

Provision for special works, as detailed at foot:—

GRANGEGORMAN	...	...	14,835
PORTRANE	...	...	8,855

Wages of Schedule Maintenance Staff:—

GRANGEGORMAN	...	...	18,500
PORTRANE	...	...	15,300
			<hr/> £65,530

Corresponding amount in 1956-57 £65,295

Increase £235

GRANGEGORMAN

PROVISION FOR SPECIAL WORKS DURING 1957/58.

(1) Painting and redecoration	...	...	3,750
(2) Redecoration of employees' houses	...	...	350
(3) External pointing	...	...	450
(4) Replacement of and repairs to concrete paths	...	...	200
(5) Road re-surfacing	...	...	850
(6) Ceiling renewals, Female House	...	...	400
(7) Plastering repairs, miscellaneous	...	...	300
(8) External plastering, staff houses	...	...	300
(9) Temporary fitter and helper, miscellaneous repairs	...	...	200
(10) Temporary plumber and helper, miscellaneous repairs	...	...	200
(11) Electrical work, re-wiring and renewing ceiling flexes	...	...	350
(12) Floor repairs, Male House	...	...	250
(13) Replacement of defective slating, gutters and rain water pipes	...	...	450
(14) Cleaning of gutters	...	...	100
(15) Sooting and cleaning boiler flues, economisers and bakery ovens	...	...	400
(16) Boiler and steam main insulation	...	...	300
(17) Covering 50 tables in Male Dining Hall with plastic	...	...	275
(18) Easing metal sashes, cleaning and oiling	...	...	50
(19) Plaster reveals to windows, Union Buildings	...	...	300
(20) Provision of toilet doors in Male Divisions	...	...	150
(21) Entrance Gate: New gates, removal of stone archway and piers and provision of new entrance	...	...	800
(22) Santry—miscellaneous repairs	...	...	100
(23) Improvements and alterations as suggested by Manager's Inspection	...	...	2,300
(24) Provision for Contingencies	...	...	2,000
			<hr/> £14,825
Corresponding amount in 1956/57 Estimates			<hr/> £12,685

PORTRANE

PROVISION FOR SPECIAL WORKS DURING 1957/58.

(1)	Internal and external painting	...	...	2,850
(2)	Renewal of sinks and drainers, main kitchen	...	...	50
(3)	Repairs to roofs and cleaning gutters	...	...	150
(4)	Repairs to avenue roadways	...	...	100
(5)	Replacing internal telephone battery	...	...	90
(6)	Water mixer for Male General Bathroom	...	...	50
(7)	Re-sheeting padded rooms Nos. 5 & 7, Female Divisions	...	...	200
(8)	Low voltage cables in boilerhouse and garage	...	...	100
(9)	Replacing three cooking pans in main kitchen	...	...	800
(10)	Tea boilers for Nos. 9 Male & No. 11 Female Divisions	...	...	260
(11)	Installation of hot cupboards in Nos. 8, 9 and 11 Divisions	...	...	450
(12)	Replacing locks and keys for nurses' rooms	...	...	120
(13)	Mattress drying rooms Nos. 9 and 11 Divisions	...	...	80
(14)	Installation of wash basin in Male O.T. Shop	...	...	40
(15)	Construction of fireproof oil store, No. 8 Division	...	...	30
(16)	Installation of sittingroom grates in four dwellings	...	...	60
(17)	Celotex sheeting damp rooms in four staff houses	...	...	60
(18)	Provision of workshop for Electrician	...	...	60
(19)	Repairs to heating services and mains	...	...	250
(20)	Replacing bath and piping in A.M.O.'s residence	...	...	50
(21)	Installation of wash basin and sterilizer in No. 7 Male Division	...	...	70

PORTRANE FARM.

(22)	Extension of water supply, Park Lane	...	...	45
	" " " " Spencer's Farm	...	...	20
	" " " " Park Field	...	...	10
	" " " " manure pit	...	...	10
	" " " " pavilion	...	...	15
	" " " " field at No. 10 Female Division	...	...	15
	Telephone Extension to Agricultural Manager's house	...	...	20

TURVEY

(23)	Extension of water supply to south of avenue	250
------	--	-----	-----	-----

BROADMEADOWS

(24)	Installation of water supply to two troughs	...	...	50
(25)	Provision for contingencies	...	...	2,500

 £8,855

 Corresponding amount in 1956/57 Estimate ... £9,610

TABLE 8

DETAILS OF "MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES."

	Present Estimate, 1957-58	Last Estimate, 1956-57
	£	£
Outdoor Sports and Pastimes ...	1,200	1,000
Indoor Games and Amusements ...	100	100
Excursions	450	400
Newspapers and Periodicals Grange- gorman	600	500
Do. Portrane ...	400	300
Library Books and Pictures ...	100	100
Cinematograph Performances ...	900	900
Postage	500	500
Telephone Service (including Telegrams) Grangegorman ...	850	830
Do. Portrane ...	250	210
Maintenance Contracts, Internal Tele- phones	620	650
Extermination of Rats	50	50
Provision for Hospital and Sanatorium charges	2,000	2,000
G. N. Railway. Omnibus subsidy ...	400	400
Regulating Clock, Weighing Machines Musical instruments, etc. ...	300	300
Burials	200	200
Travelling Expenses of Committee and Staff, Expenses of transfer of Patients to and from Portrane, al- lowances to Discharged Patients, Expenses Recapturing Escaped Patients	2,300	2,000
Law Costs (ordinary)	600	600
Sundry Purchases, including Church Requirements, which cannot be classified under ordinary heads of expenditure	400	600
Window Cleaning, Grangegorman ...	360	360
Stamp duty on Paying Orders ...	400	400
Collection of Refuse	450	400
Repairs to radios	100	100
TOTAL ...	£13,530	£12,900

TABLE 9.

Table showing Daily Average Number of Patients Resident, and Average Annual Expenditure "per patient" for last ten years.

Year	Daily Average Number of Patients Resident	AVERAGE ANNUAL EXPENDITURE " PER PATIENT "			
		Excluding Repayment of Loans		Including Repayment of Loans	
		£	s.	d.	£ s. d.
1946-47	3,352	109	3	6	115 0 5
1947-48	3,302	147	11	0	152 19 2
1948-49	3,366	145	17	2	150 12 7
1949-50	3,441	139	3	11	143 0 2
1950-51	3,524	154	9	9	158 3 4
1951-52	3,533	172	11	7	176 10 5
1952-53	3,620	167	19	5	171 12 9
1953-54	3,730	174	1	6	178 4 11
1954-55	3,768	180	16	11	185 5 4
1955-56	3,792	193	3	2	199 17 2
Last Estimate 1956-57	3,840	190	7	9	200 10 10
Present Estimate	3,820	200	15	11	211 5 4

The average expenditure per patient is based on the gross Revenue Expenditure of each year, less receipts from farm and garden sales, old stores and miscellaneous receipts.

In arriving at same no deduction is made in respect of receipts for paying Patients, "service patients" or criminal lunatics.

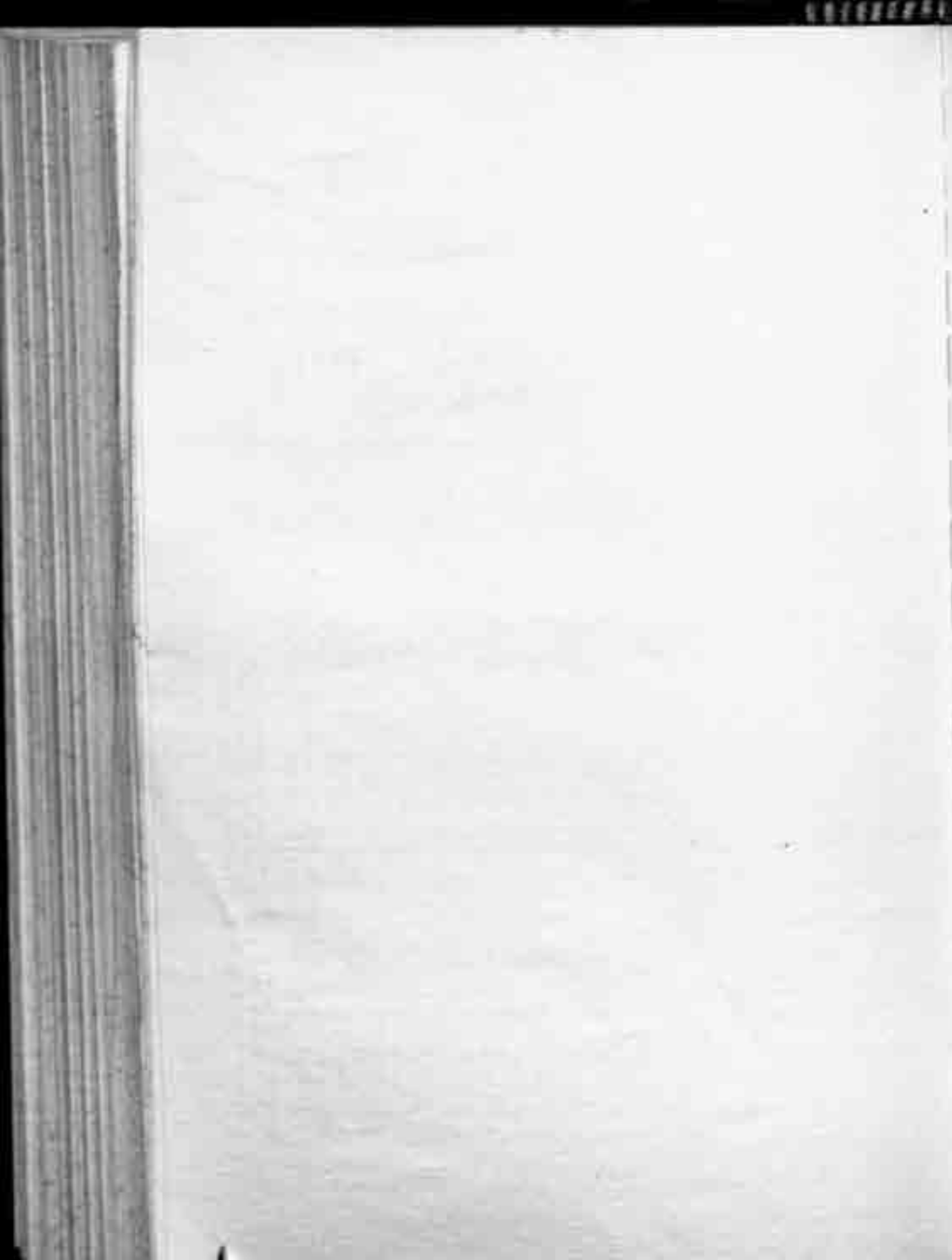
TABLE 10.

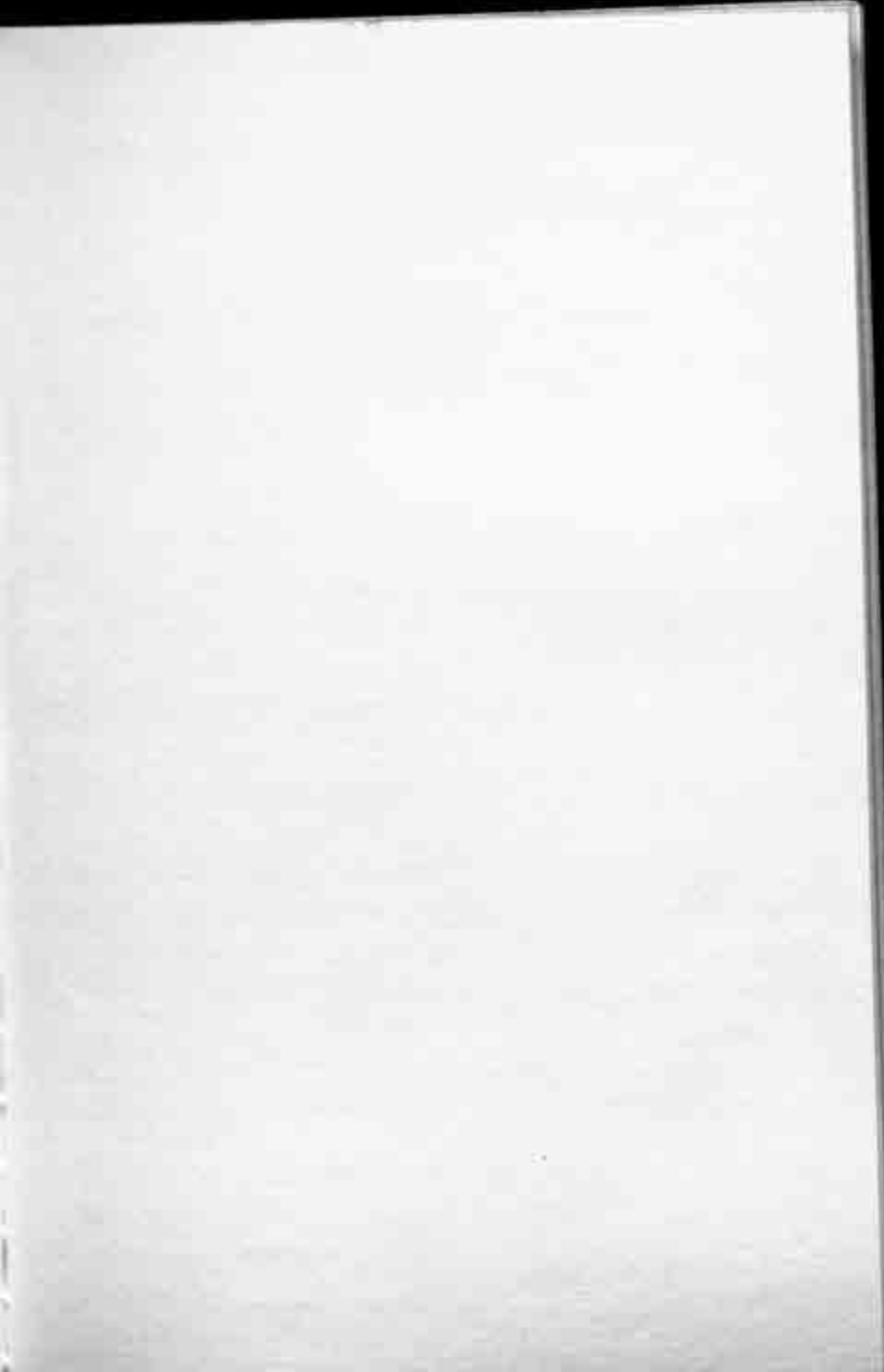
Comparison of Proposed Net Demand with the Actual Demands on Each Council since 1936-37.

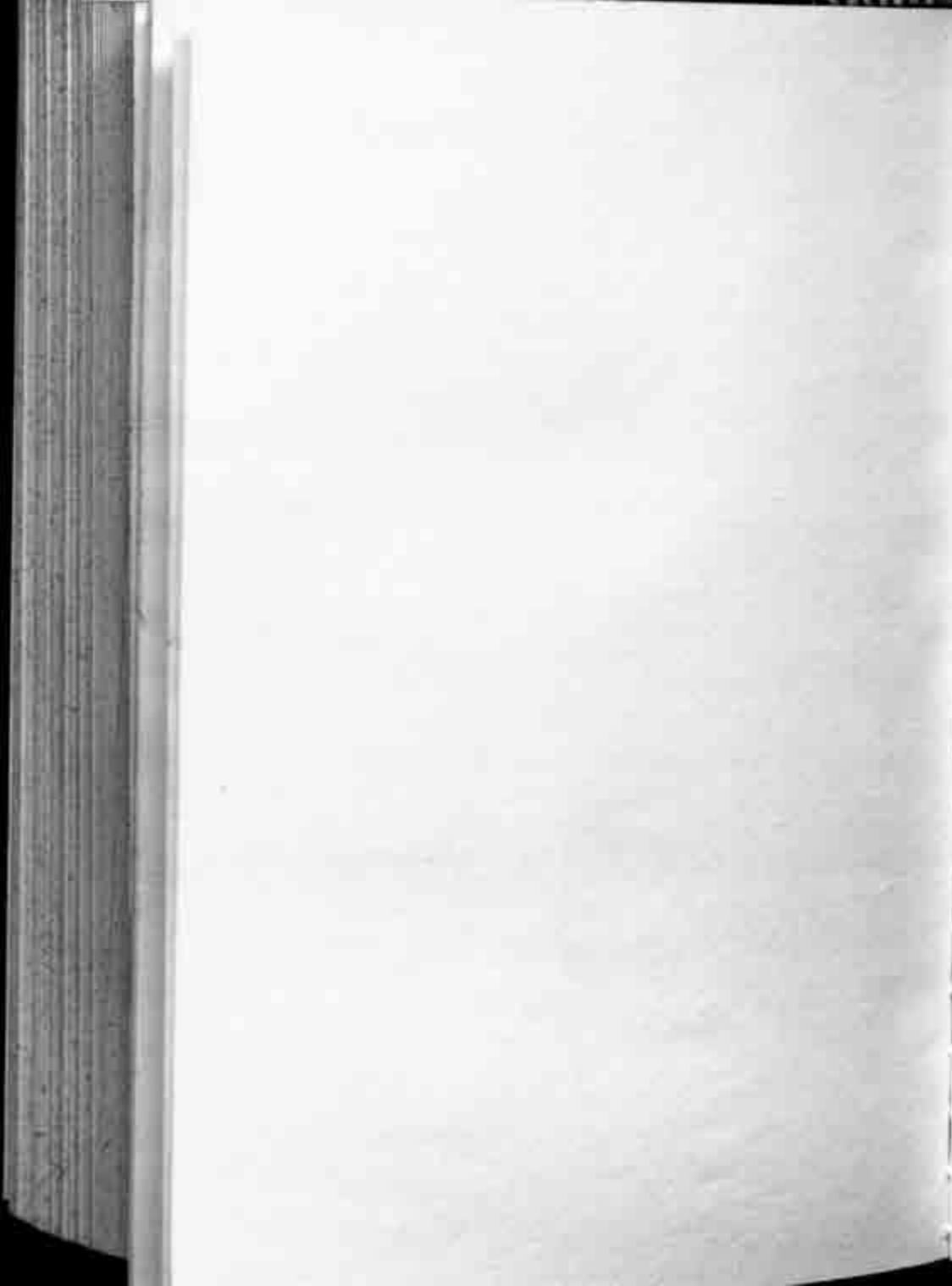
		City Dublin	County Dublin	County Wicklow	Total	Daily Average Number of Patients Resident
		£	£	£	£	
1936-37	(Actual Demand)	140,294	26,229	16,821	183,344	3,622
1937-38	"	152,264	25,375	19,937	197,576	3,597
1938-39	"	166,342	31,779	20,203	218,324	3,651
1939-40	"	172,207	32,992	21,206	226,405	3,642
1940-41	"	200,344	39,019	22,782	262,345	3,658
1941-42	"	224,090	39,974	25,434	289,498	3,586
1942-43	"	218,450	40,006	25,334	283,790	3,410
1943-44	"	292,426	51,632	31,131	375,189	3,293
1944-45	"	260,753	46,336	31,093	338,182	3,290
1945-46	"	260,456	45,020	27,985	333,461	3,331
1946-47	"	259,100	47,124	31,602	337,826	3,352
1947-48	"	319,618	61,909	35,239	416,766	3,302
1948-49	"	367,492	71,051	45,835	484,378	3,366
1949-50	"	403,849	73,716	48,061	525,626	3,441
1950-51	"	350,423	66,707	41,949	459,079	3,524
1951-52	"	433,013	76,234	52,180	561,427	3,533
1952-53	"	448,353	87,959	62,715	599,027	3,620
1953-54	"	465,347	89,257	55,385	609,989	3,730
1954-55	"	505,229	77,389	58,060	640,678	3,768
1955-56	"	491,668	86,248	59,491	637,407	3,792
1956-57	"	605,947	100,721	71,849	778,517	3,809 (a)
1957-58	Proposed Demand	584,950	104,262	66,710	755,922	3,820 (b)

(a) Average for 7 months ended 31st October, 1956.

(b) Estimated Average for Financial Year 1957-58.







Report No. 279

Grangegorman Mental Hospital
Board.

AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Agricultural Committee was held in the Boardroom, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, the 20th day of December, 1956, Councillor W J. Colman (Chairman) in the Chair. Also present:—Councillors J. Andrews, G. Hughes, W. Lawless, E. Timmons, Messrs. W. Chase, A. Lalor, T. O'Reilly, J. Smithers and Miss M. C. Ennis.

20th December, 1956.

REPORT OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGER.

1. During the past month milk supplies were well maintained. Full supplies were given to Portrane Hospital, while an average of 246 gallons per day were delivered to Grangegorman Hospital, leaving an average daily deficiency of 24 gallons. It now appears that this small deficiency will continue for the current month but it is expected that full supplies will be available by the end of January.

The present daily average yield from 245 milking cows is 2.14 gallons. The following table gives an analysis of the present daily production compared with that of last month:—

		<i>This month</i>	<i>Last month</i>
Over 6 gallons	...	3	1
5—6	"	5	6
4—5	"	18	19
3—4	"	48	44
2—3	"	67	57
1—2	"	65	78
Under 1 gallon	...	39	36
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	245	241

2. The following is a table of (a) purchases (b) sales of livestock during the month of November:—

	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Average per Beast</i>
(a) 81 sheep	... £572 8 6	£7 1 4

(b) 22 calves were sold at the following prices:—
2 at £4, 3 at £4 1s. 0d., 1 at £4 16s. 0d., 5 at £5, 1 at £5 10s. 0d., 2 at £6, 3 at £6 11s. 0d., 1 at £8, 1 at £9, 1 at £9 10s., 1 at £10 and 1 at £11 0s. 0d.; total £134 12s. 0d.

62 bonhams were sold at the following prices:—2 at £6, 42 at £6 10s., 2 at £6 15s. 0d., and 16 at £7 each; total £410 10s. 0d. 60 fat pigs at £12 and 48 store pigs at £8 each were transferred to Grangegorman. 33 fat pigs were sent to the premises of Patrick Kehoe Ltd. for slaughter and curing for Grangegorman at the following prices:—21 at £17 0s. 0d. and 12 at £19 each.

3. *Mastitis*: The position with regard to mastitis continues to be satisfactory. A few cases of clinical mastitis occurred at Portrane Farm, one at Ballymastone and a few cases at Turvey. All have responded to treatment.

4. *T.B. Test*. During the month, the six-monthly T.B. test of the whole herd, with the exception of 35 young calves at Ballymastone, was carried out. A total of 544 animals were tested, which gave 7 reactors and 21 doubtful reactors, a percentage of 1.1% and 3.89%, respectively. The reactors are being removed from the herd and slaughtered. The doubtful reactors have been isolated and will be re-tested in two months time. On the whole the test is satisfactory and shows a vast improvement on the previous six-monthly test. At Santry Court, a two-months period only had elapsed from the September test. This showed a further 2 reactors and 1 doubtful reactor from the previous test, which I consider satisfactory.

5. *Grass*: Supplies of grass are coming to an end on all farms, but I am glad to say pastures continued to graze out well to date. All stock on the farms, including those housed, have a run on the pastures daily.

6. *Crops*: Owing to the late digging of the potatoes on Turvey Farm, it was not found possible to sow any more Winter wheat, but given favourable weather in the early Spring, it is intended to sow the remainder of the Winter seed on hands.

The digging and storing of the potato crop con-

tinues satisfactorily, and to date approximately 90 acres have been dug, leaving 7 acres still to be dug. It is hoped that the digging will be completed by the end of the present week. By utilizing all available space in the yards the whole crop will be stored indoors, eliminating all pitting this year. With the exception of the last 16 acres, which are not so good, the crop has yielded satisfactorily. It will not be possible to give the average yield of the crop, which is expected to be somewhat higher than in recent years, until late Spring, when the bulk of the crops will be weighed out.

Spreading of farmyard manure and ploughing of broken and ley ground for next year's crops is at present being carried out.

7. Santry Court: All surplus grass on this farm is now grazed off and all stock are now receiving a foddering of hay.

The present stock at Santry Court comprises 1 horse, 20 calves, 63 yearling heifers, 38 two-year-old heifers and 1 bull.

JAMES HAYES,

Agricultural Manager.

Order: Noted.

REPORT OF HEAD GARDENER, PORTRANE

20th December, 1956.

1. Vegetable Fields: The area under Winter crops at the moment is as follows:—4½ acres Savoy cabbage, 4 acres broccoli, 1 acre Swede turnips and 1½ acres leeks.

There will not be sufficient vegetables to keep up a continuous supply to the two Institutions for the next four months and arrangements have been made to purchase dried peas to supplement the vegetable supply.

2. *Spring Onions:* There are about two weeks supply of onions in storage. Leeks will be used as a substitute until the Autumn onions are ready.

3. Autumn onions (2 acres) and Spring cabbage (10 acres) crops look promising; they have made good progress during the past four weeks.

4. *Kitchen Gardens and Recreation Grounds:—* Work carried out in this section was as follows:— Pruning fruit trees, manuring and covering rhubarb, planting young gooseberry bushes, indoor work and general upkeep of grounds.

GRANGEGORMAN

Work carried out in this department consisted of ploughing vacant ground, weeding lettuce, onions and leeks, planting bulbs and shrubs and general upkeep of grounds. Pruning and spraying fruit trees.

A. WOLOHAN,

Head Gardener.

Order: Noted.

OBSERVATIONS ON AGRICULTURAL
MANAGER'S REPORT ON FARM COSTS FOR
YEAR 1954/1955.

In the summary of the working of the Farms given on page 41 of the report it is indicated that the profit for the year under review amounts to £3,111. The profit for the year 1953/54 was £4,242. There was therefore a reduction in profit on the year's transactions of £1,131 as compared with the preceding year.

A more detailed examination of the accounts for the two years in question reveals that the profit on wheat was £2,661 in 1954/55 as against £3,363 in 1953/54—a reduction of £702. The profit on the potato crop fell from £3,638 in 1953/54 to £3,275 in 1954/55 or by a sum of £413. The fall in profits from wheat and potatoes as compared with the previous year therefore amounts to £1,115. This is almost equivalent to the reduction in profits on the farm as a whole from 1953/54 to 1954/55. Had the profits on these two items been maintained at the former years level the financial position on the farms as a whole would have remained unaltered.

As pointed out by the Agricultural Manager in the opening paragraph of his report, the weather conditions throughout the year under review were extremely unfavourable particularly for harvesting operations. The prolonged periods of heavy rains, with a good deal of flooding of low-lying lands late in the season, made the saving of corn crops and the lifting of potatoes both slow and difficult. While the wheat crop was gathered without any serious loss in quantity, the quality of the grain had deteriora-

ted appreciably through excess rain and lack of sunshine and consequently its market value was much reduced. The partly flooded conditions under which some of the potato crop had to be lifted late in the season resulted in increased labour costs as well as some losses in yield. On the whole the losses through bad weather were much less than we had feared at various stages throughout the Autumn and early Winter.

In view of the reductions in profits in the two main crops—wheat and potatoes—due to the very unfavourable weather conditions experienced and to poor climatic conditions for agricultural operations generally, the profit of £3,111 made on the working of the Board's farms is regarded as satisfactory.

As indicated in my report on last year's transactions, a feature of the management of the Board's farms is the very high value of the output secured from the lands under their control. An examination of the maps in the Agricultural Manager's office has revealed that after deducting for plantations, roads, etc., there are only 890 acres of land available for agricultural purposes. The values of the main items of produce raised from this area in 1954/55 were as indicated beneath:—

Item of Produce	Value
Milk	£25,474
Pigs	£ 6,476
Potatoes	£11,650
Wheat	£ 5,054
Barley	£ 623
Horticultural Produce ...	£ 7,000 (approx.)
Total ...	<hr/> £56,277 <hr/>

It will be observed that from an area of 890 acres the total value of the items enumerated above amounted to £56,277 or £63 per statute acre. This may be regarded as a very high level of production and therefore as utilising the land at the Board's disposal to the best advantage.

Another feature of the management of the Board's lands to which I would like to direct attention is the high concentration of live stock maintained on the land. As already mentioned the total area of agricultural land available is 890 acres. This includes about 50 set aside for Horticultural purposes on a rotational basis. Of the remaining 840 acres, an area of about 210 acres is devoted to wheat and potatoes, both of which may be regarded as cash crops or crops grown for sale off the farm. The land available for the maintenance of live stock is therefore 890 acres less 50 acres used for Horticultural purposes and 210 acres for cash crops. This amounts to 630 statute acres.

On the area of 630 acres as indicated above a herd of approximately 350 cows is maintained with young stock now being raised for almost full herd replacement. This represents 1.8 acres per cow and replacement stock or followers and may be regarded as a very intensive stocking. Of course purchased foods had to be used in a rather big way but even allowing for this, the concentration of stock on the area of land available is exceptionally high.

In view of the figures given above on the heavy stocking of the Portrane lands, the outcome of some investigations carried out by Agricultural Economists in England in recent years on the subject may be of

interest. In the year 1954/55 the Cambridge University Department of Agricultural Economics conducted an enquiry on 72 farms in the Cambridge area. In that enquiry it was ascertained that it took $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres per cow, with appropriate young stock for herd replacement purposes, as against 1.8 acres per cow at Portrane. As a further development of the Cambridge investigations it was established that it would require 4.68 acres to maintain a cow in a self-contained herd if purchased foods were excluded.

In investigations of a similar type carried out by the Department of Agricultural Economics, Durham University, over the same period on 52 farms in that area, it was found that over 5 acres were necessary to maintain a cow, with young stock for herd replacement, without the aid of purchased foods. By comparison with some of the rather intensive farming areas in England where these investigations were carried out it is obvious that the numbers of stock carried on our farms are extremely high.

In view of the importance of milk production on the Portrane farms and the desirability of keeping costs as low as possible, the economic aspects of production at other centres have been examined. With this object in view all available reports covering recent investigations from competent and independent Agricultural Economic Departments have been secured. The authorities from which reports have been obtained include the Milk Marketing Board for England and Wales, the East of Scotland College of Agriculture, the West of Scotland College of Agriculture, the North of Scotland College of Agriculture and the Economics Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Northern Ireland. Figures for Portrane

and the other centres already mentioned are given beneath.

Centre	Year ended	Cost per cow £ s. d.	Cost per gal.	Yield Gals.	Man hrs. per cow
Portrane	31.3.55	74 15 0	30.73d.	584	143
W. of Scotland ...	30.9.54	85 10 0	27. 7d.	718	127
E. of Scotland ...	30.9.54	95 11 0	29. 2d.	785	
N. of Scotland Sec. 1	30.9.55	85 14 0	24.25d.	851	119
N. of Scotland Sec. 2	30.9.55	81 8 0	37. 0d.	565	
N. Ireland ...	31.3.55			769	128
Eng. and Wales ...	30.9.52	76 18 0	25.39d.	727	140
Do. Do. Estimated	30.9.55	83 18 0	27.69d.		

The returns for England and Wales given above refer to detailed costing carried out in the year ended 30.9.52 at 10 centres in England and Wales and covering a total of 521 herds. These investigations were on similar lines to those carried out in previous years. they were undertaken on behalf of the Milk Marketing Board but were directed and controlled by the Agricultural Economists at the 10 recognised University centres of research in Agricultural Economics. The detailed costings at these centres were discontinued in 1952, but have been revived again in recent times. The Milk Marketing Board has, however, estimated the cost of production each year on the assumption that yields and man hours per cow have remained constant and have allowed only for alterations in factors such as food and labour costs. The advance in costs estimated by the Board to have taken place in the three years from 30.9.52 to 30.9.55 is 2.3d. per gallon or approximately £7 per cow.

The figures given by the Northern Ireland authorities do not show the cost of labour and, therefore,

are not fully comparable with those from the other centres. They do however give the man hours per cow which amounted to 128 for the year under review. If we assume that the wage rates paid on the Northern Ireland farms were at the same level as those paid at Portrane and thus arrive at a total labour cost based on the man hours per cow given in the report, we can estimate total production costs for comparative purposes. The figures secured in this way go to show that the average cost of keeping a cow on the Northern Ireland farms is approximately £83 and the cost per gallon of milk is in the region of 26d.

It will be observed that the cost of keeping a cow for one year varied from £74 15s. 0d. at Portrane, which was the lowest, to £95 11s. 0d. at the East of Scotland, which was the highest. The cost per gallon of milk produced ranged from 24.25d. in Section I of the North of Scotland area to 39d. in Section II of the North of Scotland area. The cost per gallon at Portrane was the second highest at 30.73d. The yields in gallons per cow varied from 565 in Section II of the North of Scotland area to 851 in Section I of that area. The yield at Portrane at 584 gallons was the second lowest.

It would appear from the figures already mentioned that the cost per gallon of producing milk is closely connected with the yield per cow secured. At any rate, in the investigations now under review, the lowest production costs were obtained from the highest yielding herds while the highest production costs were obtained in the lowest yielding herds. Portrane with the second lowest yield per cow is second highest in cost per gallon.

In the costings carried out by the British and Northern Ireland Authorities all home grown foods consumed by the cows were valued at the cost of production on the farm. Where home grown foods are used extensively, as they are on very many dairy farms, the cost of producing milk is substantially reduced. This method, in its application, means that the farmer who devotes a substantial portion of his holding to the production of crops to feed to his cows has no profit from that portion of his land. He is, however, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, compensated in another way as he has a guaranteed price for milk which in some instances allows him a profit margin of almost 1s. 0d. per gallon.

The system followed at Portrane whereby cash crops, such as wheat, potatoes and horticultural produce are grown in a large way for sale off the farms and foods bought for the cows at prevailing market prices adds to the cost of producing milk. On the other hand, there are substantial profits made on the growing of the crops in question. Furthermore, supplies of good fresh vegetables, potatoes, etc., are available for use in the Hospital. On the whole the advantages of the system now operating more than compensate for the disadvantages and accordingly no change is recommended.

While the cost of producing milk at Portrane is somewhat inflated, for the reason indicated in the preceding paragraph, it is realised that the low level of yields add rather substantially to the cost of production. The system of farming followed on the Board's lands is, as already pointed out, of a very intensive type and therefore costly. Production costs

under such a system cannot be reduced appreciably. The better approach to the problem is to raise the level of output.

For this reason it is essential that milk yields should be raised substantially above present levels. This is a matter of breeding for replacement purpose heifers of high milk yield inheritance. The method adopted in recent years of grading up into a full Friesian herd, although somewhat slow, will eventually produce the results desired. Concentration on the breeding and grading up policy as now in operation is therefore advocated.

The pig section of the farm activities has been maintained at its usual strength during the year and although profits are down by about £200 as compared with the previous year it is still a very important source of income. In view of the high concentration of pigs on the farm the health position is satisfactory with a low mortality rate. A production rate of 75 litters produced during the year with an average of 10.22 per litter reared to the eight weeks stage is quite satisfactory.

The work of land reclamation undertaken some years ago is now almost complete. This work has been carried out in a competent manner and has raised considerably the productive capacity of the Board's holdings. The farms are now in a very good condition and with the judicious use of fertilizer and lime are giving most satisfactory returns. The laying down of new pastures, both for grazing and ensilage, has been a pronounced success. The adoption of rotational grazing and with frequent applications of

nitrogenous fertilizers has enabled a number of grazings and cuttings for ensilage or hay being obtained in the one season from the land.

While rapid progress has been made in the work of land reclamation and in raising the productive capacity of all the lands under the Board's control, it is obvious that a similar measure of success has not been possible in the improvement of the dairy herd. The latter is clearly a much slower process but will eventually give equally good results once a sound breeding policy is adopted and rigidly followed. The most difficult part of this course has now been covered by way of disease elimination and securing a good dairy type in the young stock through the first and second crossings. It should now be a matter of only a comparatively short number of years until a disease free self contained pure bred Friesian herd is established on the Board's farms.

In my opinion the working of the farms as a whole is quite satisfactory. The productive capacity of the land is utilised to a high degree for the production of large quantities of foods of high standards in quality. In addition to this very desirable feature there is a fair margin of profit on the year's transactions.

J. MAHONY.

Order: Consideration deferred to next meeting.

REPORT OF INSPECTION, FARMS AND
GARDENS.

29th November, 1956.

1. The undersigned inspected the Board's Farms and Gardens on 29th November, 1956.

We visited Grangegorman and inspected over 150 pigs in various stages of fattening and we sincerely compliment the attendant in charge for his very efficient methods and for his deep interest in his work.

2. At Turvey we inspected the lifting of our potato crop and we were pleased to note that on that date only 23 acres remained to be saved. The crop in general is of very good quality. The cows at Turvey (about 40) looked good and well cared for and we again stress that the method adopted at Turvey is far superior to that at Portrane where, in our opinion, the cows suffer far too much discomfort.

3. At Portrane we were shown the cows purchased at Crooksling and there are some fair cows among them. The pigs were up to the usual high standard and we inspected 46 outstanding stores.

4. The loft for the various feeding mixtures was a revelation and our new weighing scales makes for efficient and accurate balanced rations. A start had been made on that day with the ploughing for early potatoes. We were very pleased with our new potato house at Portrane and we noticed about 50 tons stored there already.

5. Seasonal work was going ahead in the gardens. We noted our entire crop of onions was lost due to bad drying conditions and at some future date we must discuss the advisability of building a drying house on the same lines as those built in North Kerry and other places under the scheme operated by the Department of Agriculture.

Agricultural Committee. 356 20th December, 1956

We thank the various officers who helped us on our inspection.

W. J. COLMAN.

W. LAWLESS.

J. SMITHERS.

M. C. ENNIS.

Order: Noted.

APPOINTMENT OF VISITING MEMBERS.

The following were appointed to inspect the Board's Farms and Gardens during the ensuing period to 24th January, 1957, date of next meeting of Committee:—

Councillor W. J. Colman (Chairman).

„ James Andrews.

Mr. A. Lalor.

Mr. T. O'Reilly.

E. M. MURRAY,
Chief Clerk.

W. J. COLMAN
Chairman.

JOHN DUNNE,
Chief R.M.S.

